



# CITY OF HOUSTON

## Street Lighting Program

P.O. Box 1562 Houston, TX 77251-1562

Phone #: (713) 837-7280 Fax #: (713) 837-7290

### Street Lighting Purpose

The City of Houston installs street lights on City owned streets to illuminate the roadway. They are not installed on private streets, parking lots or for security lighting. A street segment must be in the City limits in order to be eligible for street lights. All street lights are installed, owned and maintained by Center Point Energy (formerly Reliant Energy HL&P). The City must approve a light before it can be installed. Once it is installed, the City pays the monthly operating and maintenance cost of the light.

### Street Light Types

The City of Houston approves the installation of two types of street lights, wooden pole installations and metal pole installations.

- ◆ **Wooden Pole Lights:** Wooden pole lights are installed on existing wooden utility poles served by overhead distribution. If wooden utility poles exist in an area, we will utilize the pole by attaching a light to it. In some cases, an additional wooden pole may be needed.
- ◆ **Metal Pole Lights:** If an area does not have overhead utility distribution lines then a metal pole street light served by underground electrical feed will be installed. Metal poles are only installed when no wooden poles are available for street light installations.
- ◆ **Wattage and Type:** Typically 100 watt high-pressure sodium (HPS) lights are installed on residential streets and 250 watt HPS lights are installed on major thoroughfares or collector streets.

### Street Light Spacing

Typically, metal pole street lights are installed approximately 200 to 300 feet apart for adequate roadway illumination purposes. Street lights are typically placed between the property lines and away from any obstructions such as trees.

Spacing for street lights on existing wooden utility poles may vary depending on the location of the existing poles. However, spacing will normally be 200 to 300 feet apart for adequate roadway illumination.

## Cost for Street Lights

Typically, there is no charge to the applicant for any street light that can be installed on an existing wooden poles or any street light (metal or wooden) that is installed on a major thoroughfare.

However, there is a charge for a new street light that has to be installed on a metal pole. In accordance with Section 40-3 of the City of Houston Code of Ordinances, a one-time first year's operating cost is required prior to authorizing the installation of the street light. The cost may vary depending on the type and size required but in most residential neighborhoods the cost is about \$200.00 per light.

## Lighting Problems

If street lights currently exist but are not working properly or are damaged, please report the problem to Center Point Energy at 713-207-2222. Provide them with the 6-digit pole number located on the street side of the pole about 6 feet high. If a pole number is not available, please provide them with an address location. If a tree is blocking the light please call the City of Houston's Customer Service Center at 311 to report a tree trim is needed.

## Application

If your street does not currently have street lights or if you believe the existing lights do not sufficiently illuminate the roadway, you can request that a street lighting survey be conducted. Complete a Street Light Request Form and submit it to the City of Houston, Street Lighting Program, P.O. Box 1562, Houston, Texas 77251-1562 and provide the name of the street and the cross streets. A survey will be conducted and you will receive a written response in approximately 6 to 10 weeks. A request must be submitted for each street you wish to have surveyed, along with your name and address so we can mail you the results of the survey.