WRCOG is in the process of developing a program that will help jurisdictions purchase up to 63,000 Southern California Edison-owned streetlights in Western Riverside County, and retrofit them with energy-efficient technologies, saving local governments millions in operating and utility costs!

The Regional Streetlight Program has ECONOMIC, ENVIRONMENTAL, and PUBLIC SAFETY benefits.

WRCOG’s Regional Streetlight Program will reduce current costs of streetlights to local jurisdictions through local jurisdictional ownership and energy retrofit.

The Program will aid jurisdictions by reducing their utility bill costs and energy consumption.

The Program will assist cities in meeting local and statewide energy, climate and greenhouse gas reduction goals.

The Program impact will improve public safety by increasing lighting quality and exposure where needed. This will assist communities by allowing residents improved lighting at night to walk, jog and improve visibility for drivers.

Jurisdictions participating include the Cities of Calimesa, Corona, Eastvale, Hemet, Jurupa Valley, Lake Elsinore, Menifee, Murrieta, Norco, Perris, San Jacinto, Temecula, Wildomar, and the County of Riverside. Also involved in the Program are the Jurupa Community Services District and the Rubidoux Community Services District.

There are over 63,000 SCE-owned streetlights in the WRCOG subregion that cost jurisdictions a total of $10 million annually. Retrofitting these lights can save up to $5 million annually in utility costs.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

1. Assist jurisdictions with streetlight purchase.
2. Retrofit all lamps to LED.
3. Operate and manage all operations/maintenance through regional contract.
4. Provide jurisdictions with the tools needed to convert their streetlights into “Smart City” technology.
WRCOG Regional Streetlight Program
Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is the Regional Streetlight Program, and how does it work?
A: The Regional Streetlight Program will assist jurisdictions in Western Riverside County acquire, operate, and maintain their streetlights, which are currently owned by Southern California Edison (SCE) and leased to the jurisdictions. The Program aims to retrofit approximately 63,000 streetlamps with energy-efficient technologies. The Program’s major objective is to help local jurisdictions reduce utility costs and energy consumption.

Q: What are the benefits of this Program?
A: Benefits include significant reductions in utility costs, energy consumption, and maintenance. For example, a streetlight that is acquired and retrofitted to LED can save up to $100 in annual utility costs. In addition, the Program will have public safety benefits due to improved lighting and help member jurisdictions meet local and statewide energy and greenhouse gas reduction goals.

Q: Will each jurisdiction be able to tailor the lighting to meet their individual needs?
A: Yes. Each jurisdiction will implement their own specific lighting plan that best meets their community needs.

Q: How can the community participate in the lighting design process?
A: WRCOG is developing a lighting Demonstration Area in the City of Hemet that will allow jurisdictional staff and members of the public to view and provide feedback on various street lighting options; this should help people to get a “first hand” look at lighting options that they can then apply to specific areas within their jurisdiction. WRCOG will incorporate community input into account as the lighting designs are developed.

Q: What will the cost be to maintain their own lights?
A: Once jurisdictions have acquired and retrofitted their streetlights to LED, then the cost of operating and maintaining each jurisdictions streetlight pole is estimated to $3.89 per pole a month. The current fees that jurisdictions are paying to maintain their current streetlights systems are estimated to $9.88 per pole a month. Also, due to the long useful life of LED lights, it is expected that maintenance cost will be reduced.

Q: Are there other benefits for jurisdictions to own their streetlights?
A: Once jurisdictions have acquired and retrofit their streetlights to LED, then the next step, if desired, would be to apply “Smart City” systems. Smart City systems will allow jurisdictions to apply technology to their streetlights systems that can assist with light dimming, air quality sensors, gunshot detection devices, and city-wide wireless telecommunications, to name a few.

Q: How can I find out more about the Regional Streetlight Program?
A: To learn more about the Regional Streetlight Program, please contact Tyler Masters at (951) 955-8378/masters@wrcog.cog.ca.us or visit the streetlight website at wrcog.cog.ca.us/streetlights..