



# Park Outdoor Lighting Program

## Parks and Recreation Board

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# Program Establishment

- ❑ Summer, 2017: Go Austin Vamos Austin (GAVA) advocated that City Council fund park lighting in zip codes 78744 and 78745
- ❑ Result: Recurring \$115K appropriated for park lighting city-wide, starting in FY17

# Lighting Options: Night Watchman

- ❑ 120-volt LED lights installed on existing Austin Energy poles
- ❑ Initial cost—\$1,000 - \$1,500;
- ❑ Lowest maintenance option
- ❑ Activated with photo-cell; no programming



**Night Watchman light**

# Lighting Options: Solar

- ❑ Locations w/o power
- ❑ Initial cost: \$3,000 - \$5,000 for installation
- ❑ Low maintenance
- ❑ Extensive programming capability
- ❑ Exploring mounting options
- ❑ 20' and 12' poles



**Valen Energy solar light**



**First Light Tech. solar light**



# Summary of Installations

- ❑ 87 lights installed (62 solar and 25 Night Watchman)
- ❑ Installed in 19 zip codes; 44 lights in 78744 & 78745



**12' First Light Tech. solar light**



**Solar light at Mount Bonnell**

# Benefits of Lighting

- ❑ Enhances safety and prevents accidents
- ❑ Can be a deterrent to undesirable behavior and crime
- ❑ Supports PARD's mission by enabling recreation at sundown and before curfew

# Lighting Issue

Safety & Security / Extended Use of Parks



**Safety/security at Montopolis  
Practice Fields**



**Extended use at Garrison Park  
basketball court**

# Lighting Considerations

- ❑ Cost (first cost and operational costs)
- ❑ Light pollution
- ❑ Some people prefer natural darkness to enjoy the natural environment
- ❑ May encourage activity beyond curfew
- ❑ Some lighting can make it *more* difficult to see beyond the lit area



# Questions

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