

## LEGAL ACTION REPORT / MEETING MINUTES

### Tucson-Pima County Outdoor Lighting Code Committee

Wednesday, January 29, 2025

#### 1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Dennis Coon at 9:05 a.m.

Members:

Craig Barron	Present
Dennis Coon	Present
Rob East	Present
Buell Jannuzi	Present
Amy Oliver	Absent
Daniel Sleator	Present
Alec Zimmermann	Absent

Staff:

Clayton Trevillyan, COT  
Dan Ice, PC  
Angie Ruiz, COT  
Christina Anaya, COT  
Anna Valles, COT

- 2. Approval of Minutes/Legal Action Report for Nov 20,2024.** Committee Member, Buell Jannuzi, requested item 3 be updated to reflect the economic impact of the local astronomy industry rather than the University dollars spent. A motion was made by Mr. Buell Jannuzi to approve the meeting minutes duly seconded by Mr. Daniel Sleator. The committee voted 5-0 to approve the minutes as corrected.
- 3. Subcommittee report.** Vice Chair, Dennis Coon, shared that the subcommittee agrees with the need to define the term ‘lot’ and use this term to replace instances of the term ‘parcel’ wherever it is found in the code per Mr. Timothy Kinney’s recommendation during a previous open comment period. Discussion ensued regarding the use of the term ‘lot’ in land use regulations for both the City and the County. Mr. Coon also requested clarification of the lighting consultant’s purpose. Mr. Dan Ice stated the purpose of the lighting consultant, Fisher Marantz Stone, is to assist the committee and that they are not tasked with rewriting the code.
- 4. Discussion on Light Trespass and Shielding.** Mr. Coon shared that the current code language uses the term ‘full-cut-off’ interchangeably with ‘fully shielded’ and recommended

replacing all instances of the former with the latter. Discussion ensued about mounting heights, light poles, house-side-shields, and existing non-conforming conditions. Mr. Coon brought up that other lighting regulations limit glare by prohibiting light sources from being visible from adjoining property and that lowering the maximum mounting height would also work to reduce glare.

5. **Discussion on Correlated Color Temperature (CCT).** Mr. Richard Green stated the recommendation from UA Astronomy & Steward Observatory is to reduce the maximum CCT to 2,700 Kelvin. Mr. Rick Hollander stated that many of the new fixtures have variable settings. Mr. Dennis Coon stated that many people believe 3,000 K to be acceptable for reducing sky glow, but new LED technology produces a different type of light compared to previous LPS and HPS lighting. He also suggested the lighting consultant may be able to provide an analysis of how these new lighting sources compare to the legacy sources the previous code was written for. Discussion ensued about possible example sites, perhaps parking lots, where the public can visually see the difference in proposed lighting configurations. Mr. Rob East initiated a discussion about color rendition and outdoor sales.
6. **Discussion on Curfew and Automatic Timers.** Mr. Coon suggested that new parking lot lighting is required to have occupancy sensors that dim the parking lot lights when there is no movement. The committee discussed the associated cost and benefits to dimming and asked if the consultant could provide data to support this suggestion. Discussion ensued regarding residential motion detection and flood lighting. Mr. Buell Jannuzi suggested the code include an option for residential properties to use motion sensing fully shielded lighting and be exempted from the lumen cap. Discussion ensued regarding flag lighting, landscape lighting, and festoon lighting. Mr. Coon expressed concern about businesses that use lighting inside the building that is directed through storefront windows intended to attract attention to the business. Discussion ensued regarding environmental protections, raising public awareness of the lighting code, and code enforcement.
7. **Discussion on observatory tours.** Mr. Jannuzi discussed options for a possible tour or multiple tours of the local observatories to help raise awareness.
8. **Future agenda items and meeting schedule.** The committee agreed to set future meetings on the second Wednesday of each month starting at 9:00 am moving forward.
9. **Call to the audience.** Audience member Richard Green spoke about different colored temperatures for different areas and the possibility of examples. He read the exception of lighting on a US flag, triggering discussion of the code, and leading to the city staff review of the language in curfew section 403.1 exception 1 being in conflict. Priscilla Storm stated most of the top-down fixtures used for the US flag are solar and may be difficult to turn off at curfew. Kent Blumenthal shared his gratitude to the Committee. He began with a previous comment, suggesting the use of the Santa Cruz definition of light trespass, “No luminair installed within the county limits shall create conditions of light trespass”. He also suggested that damaged

light shields even if installed prior to 2012 be repaired and brought to current code. Lastly, low LED accent lighting pointing up, are these included in the code? Mr. Coon stated they are subject to the code and should follow curfew. Kent Blumenthal discussed a movement “Ready for you” as a model to successfully educate the public. Richard Green stated the urgency in consensus and update to the code to begin enforcement sooner than later. Kate Hotten stated purpose of outdoor lighting needs to include the impact on human health and environment. Rick Hollander spoke about Code Enforcement goal to understand and enforce the Outdoor Lighting Code. Kevin Krumwiede spoke about the difficulty homeowners could have with the code and suggests a focus on motion sensors on timers that could be easier to understand and accept. He also spoke on public awareness and the impact of education because most do not know a code exists. Paula Redinger reiterated the comments for human health and our habitats, and the effect of broadening the goals to capture your audience acceptance. Desert corridors. Motion sensors coming on can be more secure than a light turned on always. Code complaint form is missing light code option. Lainie Levick commented on a residential sensor light blinding her 50 feet away and if the code can address this. Angie Ruiz addressed the code violation links in the chat.

#### **10. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 11:22 a.m.