

# Street Lighting: What you need to know

**Street lighting improves road user safety at night by illuminating roads and paths particularly at intersections, sharp curves, traffic islands and pedestrian crossings.**

Street lighting is not designed to provide security lighting for private property.

Council assesses requests for street lighting against the Australian Standards. New installations are prioritised based on road user volumes and are subject to funding availability. Nearby residents may also be consulted.

## **Is there a street lighting standard?**

Council aims to provide a street light on every second pole where overhead wires exist. In new residential developments where underground power exists, street lighting is installed to standard.

In rural residential areas with lots up to 2 hectares and frontages less than 100 metres Council may install lighting only at intersections, to identify their location. Council does not install street lighting where lot sizes are larger than 2 hectares.

## **Who owns the street lights?**

Ergon Energy owns and maintains most street lights. Ergon Energy installs and operates standard street lights on Council streets. Council requires land developers to install street lights in new residential areas.

Lights in parks and off-street car parks are owned and maintained by Council, as well as the decorative street lights in Flinders, Palmer, Stokes and Gregory Street.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads are responsible for lights on state-controlled roads.

## **Can I get a street light installed?**

Residents should contact Council via the following details:

- Email a request to: [enquiries@townsville.qld.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@townsville.qld.gov.au)
- Call 13 48 10.

Council investigates all requests and, if supported, will include the cost of the proposed light in future budgets. Unfortunately, the large backlog of approved requests and current funding constraints means funding for new street lighting can take some time to secure.

## **Can I get lighting on an alleyway, laneway or shared path?**

No. Council does not install lighting along alleyways, laneways or shared paths because of the significant

backlog of requests for lighting in streets and lighting schemes throughout the city.

## **Can I get a shade installed on a street light?**

No. Council and Ergon Energy do not support shading of street lights because in most circumstances the shade adversely affects the spread of light reaching the ground. This, in turn, impacts road users and pedestrians. Residents are asked to consider installing blinds or use screen plantings on their property to reduce light shining through windows.

## **Who can I contact to get a street light fixed?**

If standard street lights are either flickering, insect-infested or not working, contact Ergon Energy on 13 10 46 or go to [ergon.com.au](http://ergon.com.au) to report an issue.

Ergon Energy will require a street address, pole number and details on the nature of the fault. To report a faulty decorative street light, a light in a park or a car park please contact Council.

## **Why was the type of light recently changed?**

Where an older style light has become faulty, Ergon Energy will replace the light with their current standard light.