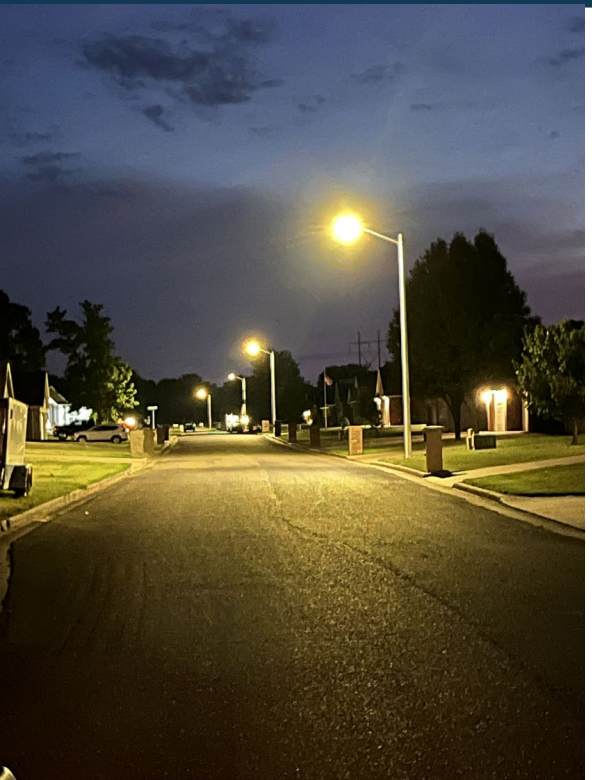


MID-ALLEY STREETLIGHT METRICS DISCUSSION

Public Works | July 14, 2024

City Council Presentation

Mid-Alley Streetlights



Staff were tasked to investigate a metric for mid-alley areas of concern for streetlight install considerations.

Currently streetlights are installed at intersections and every 300’ as conditions allow: power availability, topography, costs, etc.

Mid-Alley Streetlights

In 2006, the citizens of Joplin imposed a ½ cent Public Safety Sales Tax to fund various public safety enhancements. Key among those was the addition of police officers, firefighters, two fire stations, the Public Safety Training Center, and streetlights.

- TST streetlights are placed at intersections along arterials (transportation focused and funded)
- PSST streetlights are placed at mid-block for safety purposes
- In the original program, mid-alley lighting was not considered due to projected resources available
- PSST currently has little available funding capacity as ongoing revenue.
- Covers current costs for PSST obligations
- Citizens continue to place private lighting in alleys on property; and can also work with Liberty.

Mid-Alley Streetlights

In late 2023, staff provided a cost estimate to install mid-alley lights citywide

Recent analysis for citywide mid-alley coverage identified approximately 820 possible light locations.

- Considered basic existing infrastructure and power adjacency
- Estimating average approximately a $20/month charge per light
- This equated to $16,380/month or $196,560/year
- No action was considered

Proposed Assessment & Scoring Matrix

A complaint driven metric has been developed for targeted area installations by need

The following matrix evaluates mid-alley locations based:

- crime prevention
- pedestrian and traffic safety
- environmental visibility
- community input

Factors gathered utilizing various methods: Complaints, SeeClickFix reporting system, Neighborhood Services, Fire Dept., Police Dept., Park Rangers, or other.

Areas scoring above 70 points are prioritized for lighting improvements. Mid-alley light placement will be considered on following factors and weight, as well as power availability, site conditions, neighbors support, and costs.

Proposed Assessment & Scoring Matrix

* Indicates possible priority consideration

Scoring Thresholds:

- ≥ 70 points: Recommend installation.

Example for Conditions met:
Location *X* with ≥ 3 documented public safety incidences or property crimes within 12 months, combined with Environmental Obstructions, qualify for Conditions met with an overall score of 70% for the scoring matrix.

Adjacent properties: 51% of adjoining neighboring properties are required for approval of an install.

Factor	Weight (%)	Description / Notes
Crime Incidents Documented *	25%	3 crimes in last 12 months within 500 ft radius.
Community Complaints Reported *	15%	3 complaints in last 12 months related to lighting, crime, or safety.
Traffic Safety Risk Factors *	15%	Low visibility due to topography, dense tree cover, curves, hills, etc.
Repeat Safety Incident (Non-Crime) *	15%	3 documented safety incidents in last 12 months (trips, near misses, pedestrian conflicts).
Land Use / Vulnerable Populations *	10%	Within 1 block of schools, parks, senior housing, or transit hubs.
Environmental Obstructions	10%	Alleys, overgrowth, fencing, or other barriers affecting visibility.
Pedestrian Traffic Complaints	10%	Nighttime pedestrian traffic observed or projected.

Questions?

