

**CITY OF NORTH PORT
COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM**

Item No. 2
(City Clerk's Use Only)

MEETING TYPE:		Meeting Date: October 26, 2012	
Regular	<input type="checkbox"/>	Department: Public Works	
Fire Rescue District	<input type="checkbox"/>	Prepared by: Branford N. Adumuah, Director	
Road & Drainage District	<input type="checkbox"/>	Date Prepared: October 12, 2012	
Solid Waste District	<input type="checkbox"/>	Department Director's Initials: BNA	Date: 10-12-12
Other: Workshop	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	City Manager's Initials: MNA FLR JDL	Date: 10/22/12

- Exhibits:**
1. Residential Streetlight Maps
 2. Residential Streetlight Presentation
 3. Typical FPL Streetlight Agreement
 4. Minutes from Commission Meeting on March 22, 2010 regarding Streetlight Program

SUBJECT: Residential Streetlight Program.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: None

Streetlight Program

The criteria for approving residential streetlights was brought before the City Commission and approved on March 22, 2010. Request for residential streetlight is approved if at least one of the following criteria is met:

1. Budgeted funding for streetlight is available.
2. Streetlight will be located in a cluster of at least five homes. A cluster is defined as houses side by side and/or across the street.
3. Streetlight will be located near a signalized intersection.
4. Streetlight will be located near an officially designated school bus stop.
5. Three traffic accidents during night hours have occurred where the streetlight will be located within the last twelve months.
6. Two incidents of crime during night hours have occurred within one block of where the streetlight will be located within the last twelve months.

If the request is approved, the resident is orally informed. If the request is denied, the resident is sent a letter from the Director of Public Works. Approved request is forwarded to Florida Power and Light Company (FPL) who provide an installation schedule which is provided to the resident.

FPL is responsible for the maintenance of the streetlight installed. An average of 100 requests for streetlights is received from residents annually.

Fiscal Year	2009	2010	2011	2012
Requested	128	95	101	79
Approved	66	24	27	34

Streetlight Service Requests

Streetlight Program Costs

The average monthly cost in rental (electricity, fixtures, maintenance, etc.) of a streetlight from FPL is \$12.00. Installation of necessary infrastructure such as a new transformer may increase the overall installation cost. There is a required streetlight agreement with FPL for an initial period of 10 years and extending thereafter for successive periods of 5 years. The cost of termination of the agreement equals the original installed cost less depreciation and salvage costs plus removal cost.

Residents can request a security streetlight from FPL which is installed on the private property or within the right-of-way to illuminate the private property. The cost to the resident is \$6 to \$14 per month depending on the type of security light. If a pole is installed, there is an additional charge of \$5 per month. FPL is responsible for the maintenance of the light. There are a total of 1,350 residential streetlights along local roads and 497 along arterial and collector roads,

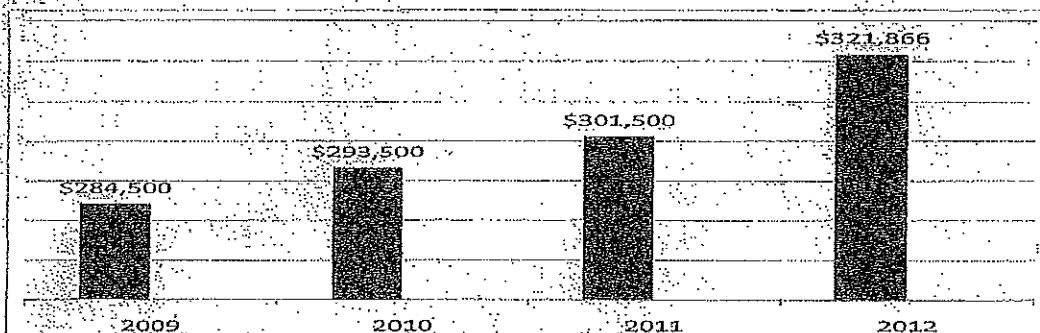
The FY2012 Road and Drainage District's actual cost for streetlights rented through FPL was \$321,866.

FY2012 Streetlight Inventory and Actual Rental Costs

Streetlights	Inventory	Actual Costs
Local Roads	1,350	\$235,256
Arterials and Collectors*	497	\$86,610
Total	1,847	\$321,866

* excluding Toledo Blade Boulevard and Sumter Boulevard

Streetlight Rental: Actual Cost vs. Fiscal Year



Residential streetlights provide some benefits to the community such as the following:

- Traffic and pedestrian safety through the illumination of obstacles in the right-of-way
- Crime prevention
- Sense of security for pedestrians and residents
- Community outdoor social and recreational activities
- Some private property security through partial illumination of property

Other Streetlight Programs and Funding Options

There are various options relating to the streetlight program and funding which will have a reduced impact on the Road and Drainage District's budget. These options can be discussed, explored, and potentially initiated in the community. These options include the following:

1. Streetlights through new construction. Would require a revision in the Uniform Land Development Code (ULDC).
2. Special Assessment Districts
3. Streetlight Utility
4. FPL Security Lighting Options

However, several of these options may have some obstacles or issues requiring further consideration before implementation:

1. Legal review by the City Attorney's Office
2. Cost considerations and budgetary impacts (no current funding exists for expansion, staffing, or pilot programs)
3. Consistency in implementation
4. Perceived disparate treatment among areas being served

In each of the circumstances mentioned staff would require City Commission direction and approval to fund any such initiatives that may be desired by the community. These options and the related concerns are briefly explained as follows.

Streetlights through new construction

Revisions to the Uniform Land Development Code and other development code to provide a requirement for single family homes to provide lighting on all newly constructed single family residential home sites. This would be a fixture placed by homeowners and contractors on their lots solely owned and maintained by homeowners. The cost to an individual homeowner must be determined in advance. The following are some implementation issues:

1. Standardizing the type of fixture to be used would prohibit individual choices for taste/aesthetics or architectural designs.
2. Identification of placement of such fixtures to provide useful and effective lighting schemes.
3. On-site residential lighting is typically not an adequate substitute for streetlighting purposes, although it may provide reasonable results for desired residential security lighting only.
4. Fragmented implementation would result, since installation would occur on new homes only. There would be no way to have existing homes conform to such an initiative.

Special Assessment Districts

The establishment of Special Assessment Districts (SADs) may be a viable means to fund the expansion of streetlighting needs for the City. The benefits of SADs in other communities have been a successful means by which to provide funding for lighting systems in response to citizen's desires. However, there may be legal issues especially concerning the existence of the Road and Drainage District which may preclude the establishment of

SADs. Even if SADs were to be implemented there are some concerns that must be considered as follows:

1. Initiating SADs may provide the perception of disparate treatment among areas within the City. Many areas citywide already have lights that have been funded by the Road and Drainage District. Creating SADs may not be acceptable to those residents who request streetlights in their neighborhoods knowing that other residents already have streetlights funded through the Road and Drainage District (existing funded streetlights) at no additional direct cost.
2. Managing many small special assessment districts will require additional resources not currently allocated or funded.

Streetlight Utility

The formation of streetlight utility is a relatively new concept for providing this type of service. Research has found that several communities throughout the country have successfully implemented a streetlight utility. The objective of a streetlight utility is to provide sufficient funding to implement a streetlight master plan for the entire community. If successfully implemented, it could replace the Road and Drainage District's cost burden of \$321,866 for streetlights, the actual cost for fiscal year 2012 and adequately fund future annual streetlight programs. If legally feasible, setting up a utility to provide a master plan could be developed, funded, and implemented to the limits approved by City Commission.

FPL Security Lighting

Some streetlight requests received from residents are actually for security lighting. The FPL security lighting program is available to all citizens at their costs. This lighting is specific to lighting private property for additional security lighting at a nominal monthly cost to the requestor.

Substantial portions of the City remain without street lights. While many of the residents of these areas desire street lights, the Road and Drainage District simply does not have the funds to install and maintain streetlights in these areas. The use of private security light through FPL security lighting or new construction can actively be encouraged as a policy.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: (if applicable) Not applicable

PROCUREMENT: (if applicable) Not applicable

☐ Amendment ☐ Assignments ☐ New Contract ☐ Renewal Contract ☐ Other

Vendor Information:

Contract Amount:

Contingency:

Total Contract Amount:



Department of Public Works

Residential Streetlight Program

October 26, 2012

Workshop Questions

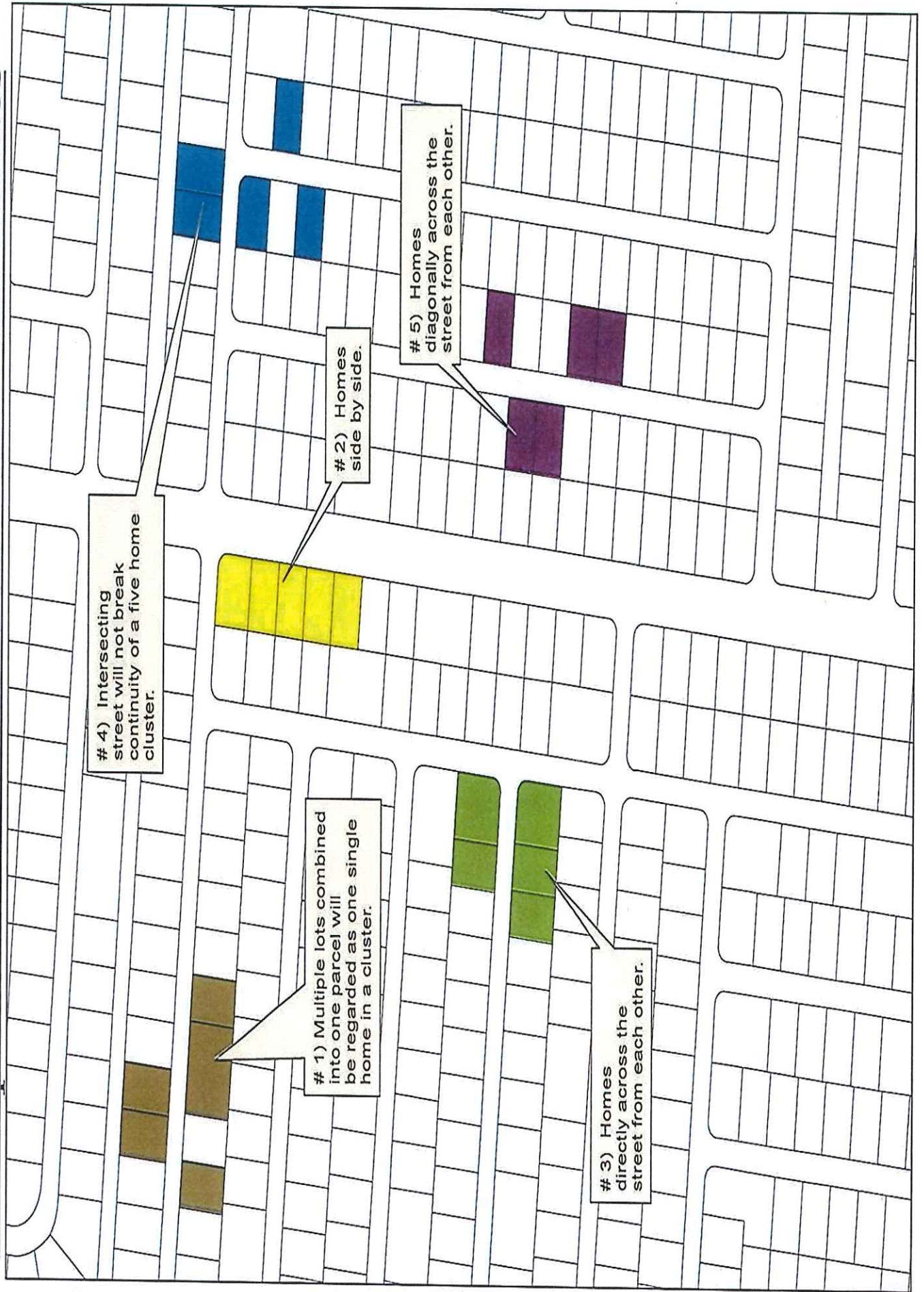
- Should the current residential streetlight program and/or funding mechanism continue?
- If the streetlight program is to continue, can the service be provided more cost-effectively with reduced impact on the Road and Drainage District's budget?

Residential Streetlight Program

- Resident requests the installation of a new streetlight on a residential street
- Request is approved if at least one of the following criteria is met:
 - Budgeted funding for streetlight is available
 - Streetlight will be located in a cluster of at least five homes. A cluster is defined as houses side by side and/or across the street
 - Streetlight will be located near a signalized intersection
 - Streetlight will be located near an officially designated school bus stop

Exhibit A

Examples of cluster of five or more homes



Residential Streetlight Program

- Three traffic accidents during night hours have occurred where the streetlight will be located within the last twelve months
- Two incidents of crime during night hours have occurred within one block of where the streetlight will be located within the last twelve months
- If the request is denied, the resident is sent a letter from the Director of Public Works
- If the request is approved, the resident is orally informed
- Approved request is forwarded to Florida Power and Light Company (FPL)
- Resident is provided with a schedule for the installation of the streetlight





Streetlight Benefits

- Traffic and pedestrian safety through the illumination of obstacles in the right-of-way
- Crime prevention
- Sense of security for pedestrians and residents
- Community outdoor social and recreational activities
- Some private property security through partial illumination of property

Streetlight Inventory

Residential Local Roads	1,350
Toledo Blade Boulevard	235
Sumter Boulevard	192
Other Arterial and Collector Roads*	497
Total	2,274

* excluding Toledo Blade Blvd and Sumter Blvd)

Streetlight Service Requests

Fiscal Year	2009	2010	2011	2012
Requested	128	95	101	79
Approved	66	24	27	34

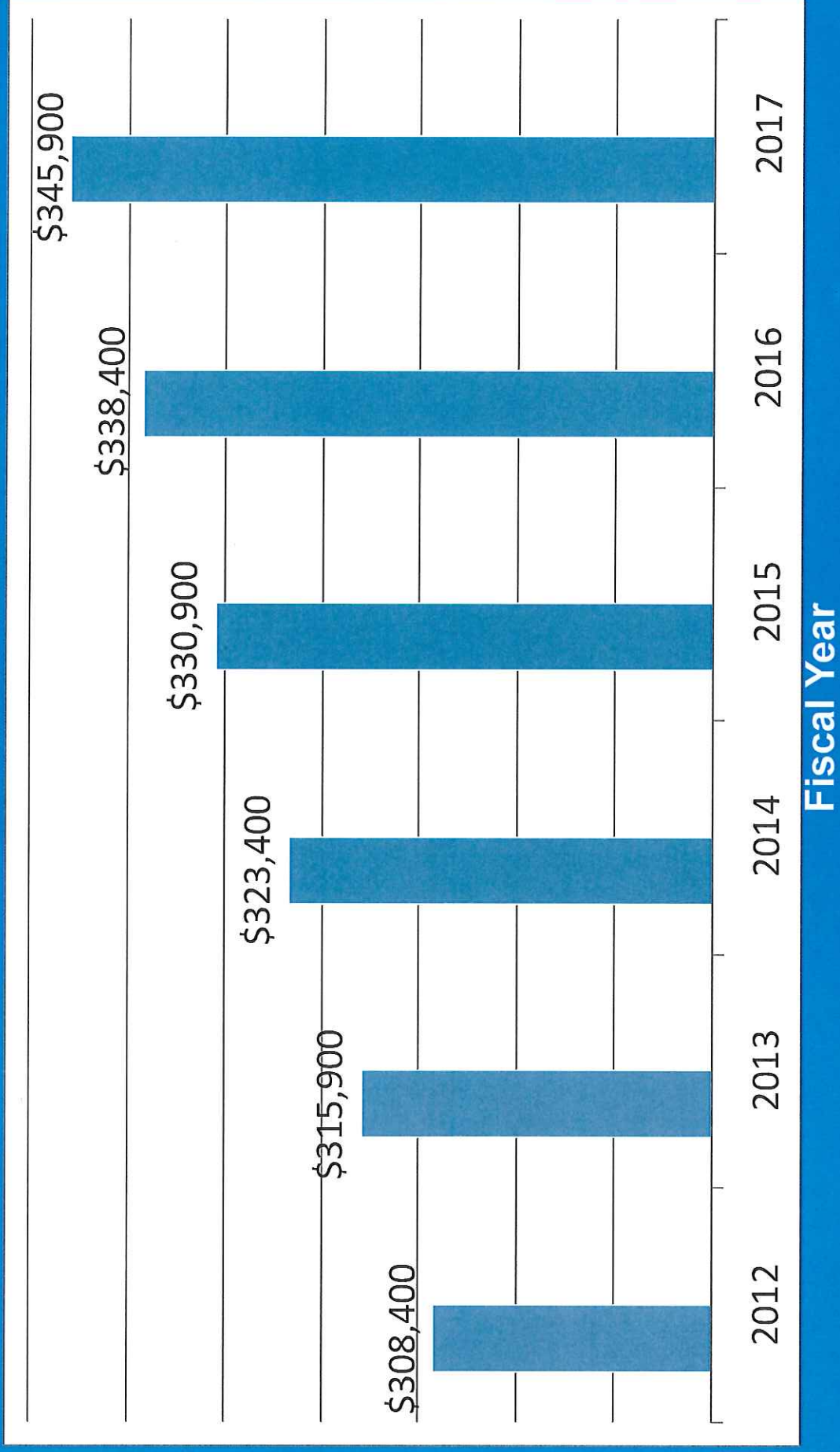
Streetlight Costs

- Average monthly cost in monthly rental (electricity, fixtures, maintenance, etc) of streetlight from FPL is \$12.00 per month
- Installation of necessary infrastructure such as a new transformer may increase the overall installation cost
- Required rental agreement with FPL for an initial period of 10 years and extending thereafter for successive periods of 5 years
- Termination of agreement requires a written notice via certified mail to FPL at least 90 days before expiration of agreement

Streetlight Costs

- Agreement termination cost = original installed cost – salvage cost – depreciation cost + removal cost
- FY2012 budget for residential streetlights already installed was \$308,400
- FY2013 budget for **new** residential streetlights is \$7,500
- Residents can request a security streetlight directly from FPL which is installed to directly illuminate the private property
- The cost to the resident is \$6 to \$14 per month, depending on the type of security light. If a pole is installed, there is an additional charge of \$5 per month

Streetlight Cost Trend



Other Streetlight Programs

	Department of Public Works	Charlotte County	Sarasota County	Hillsborough County	City of Deltona
Streetlight Process	Residents request streetlights on local roads	Residents petition County for the creation of a Streetlight District.	Residents petition County for the creation of Streetlight District.	Residents petition County for the creation of a Street Lighting Service Area.	Residents petition the City for the creation of a Streetlight District.
Funding Mechanism	Non Ad-Valorem Assessments	District Municipal Service Taxing Units (Ad-Valorem Taxes)	Streetlight District – Municipal Service Taxing Units (Ad-Valorem Taxes)	Street Lighting Service Area – Municipal Service Taxing Units (Ad-Valorem Taxes)	Streetlight District - Special Service Charge (Ad-Valorem Taxes)

Streetlight Options

1. Continue current streetlight program and funding
2. Discontinue current streetlight program but explore other programs (streetlight utility, city-resident shared cost, streetlights through new construction, etc)
3. Discontinue streetlight program

END

**NORTH PORT CITY COMMISSION
MINUTES OF WORKSHOP MEETING
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2012**

PRESENT: Commissioner Jones, Chair; Commissioner Treubert, Vice-Chair; Commissioners Blucher, Garofalo, and Yates; City Manager Lewis; Acting City Attorney Blackwell; Deputy City Clerk Adkins; Police Chief Vespia; and Recording Secretary Strong.

The North Port City Commission Workshop Meeting was called to order in City Chambers at 2:04 p.m. by Chair Jones.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Commission.

1. DISCUSSION REGARDING COMMUNICATION SERVICE TAX

Subsequent to City Manager Lewis providing background information, Finance Director Lear provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Florida Communications Services Tax Simplification Law (Chapter 202 F.S.) including the findings of a Working Group (Working Group) created by the State to review the Communications Services Tax (CST) and its administration.

Addressing concerns, Director Lear clarified the following: 1) the Working Group determined that "Voice Over Internet Programs" are considered data plans and taxable revenue sources have been reduced due to "land lines" being replaced with cell phones; 2) one of the fastest growing communication industries is the pre-paid phone plan which adds to the reduction of revenue from the CST; 3) within Chapter 202 F.S., local government's ability to audit telecommunication companies was removed which would have ensured the reported taxable sales were correct; 4) the Working Group did not research the unlimited telecommunication plans but are researching the "bundling" programs which are bundled under "data" causing less tax revenue; 5) the Working Group determined that the Pre-Paid plans would be taxed where purchased, not necessarily where used; 6) the Pre-Paid plans were non-existent when the Communications Services Tax (CST) was adopted and the mechanics of collecting the tax was not covered; 7) the Working Group consists of different representatives including the retail sector which has a different impact of pre-paid plans than the telecommunication providers; 8) the CST was designed to be a stable revenue stream; 9) some cities have bonded the revenue to allow it to be used for improvement projects; 10) the purpose of the Workshop is to bring awareness to the issue, to make this issue a top legislative priority and protect revenue streams which provide the necessary services from the General Fund; 11) City Manager Lewis provided clarification on the methodology for the State allocating funds from the CST and noted that Finance Director Lear, the City Lobbyists and Tampa Finance Director Sharon Fox will provide updates from the Working Group concerning this issue; and 12) one of the conversations with the Working Group is to suggest combine the CST with collected sales tax.

2. DISCUSSION REGARDING RESIDENTIAL STREET LIGHTS

Subsequent to City Manager Lewis providing background information, Public Works Director Adumuah provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the North Port Residential Streetlight Program.

Discussion ensued regarding: 1) criteria for approving a request for the installation of a new streetlight on residential streets; 2) process of notifying residents of approval or denial of requested streetlight; 3) methodology for the funding of the Streetlight Program and allocated funds for requests allocated but not approved; 4) project related difference between transportation and residential lighting; 5) total mileage of Toledo Blade Boulevard and Sumter Boulevard; 6) total number of North Port arterial and collector roads; 7) street light operation, maintenance and installation costs; 8) option of creating a "Streetlight

District"; 8) available options for lighting residential properties; 9) cost for installation and removal of streetlights on Toledo Blade and Sumter Boulevards; 9) monthly streetlight billing from Florida Power & Light (FPL); 10) streetlight funding in surrounding areas; 11) legal review of options for streetlight funding; 12) importance of street lighting at school bus stops, intersections, roads recording traffic accidents, and lighting to ensure public safety; 13) installation of permanent street lights at school bus stops which are determined annually; 15) suggested Sarasota County School Board responsibility for street light funding at school bus stops; and 16) parameters for street lighting within a Special Assessment District.

Discussion continued regarding: 1) methodology for Charlotte County street lighting; 2) creating District options for street lighting and utility infrastructure; 3) budgeted street light funding; 4) option of restructuring the Road & Drainage District to fund the street lighting approvals through ad – valorem revenue; 5) alternative lighting sources and costs for solar panel lighting; and 6) re-instating the Residential Streetlight Program.

Commissioner Garofalo left the meeting at 3:57 p.m.

Addressing concerns, City Manager Lewis noted that a Streetlight Workshop will be scheduled for January or February, 2013 to afford staff the opportunity to provide the following information requested by the Commission: 1) the total mileage of Toledo Blade and Sumter Boulevards; 2) total number of arterial and collector roads in North Port; 3) North Port Streetlight Program allocated funds and allocated funds for requests not approved; 4) street light operational costs; 5) list and number of school bus stops in North Port; 5) more information on Special Assessment and Lighting District options; 6) information regarding street light/utility funding options; and 7) alternative lighting sources and costs for solar panel lighting.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

2. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Jones adjourned the North Port City Commission Workshop Meeting at 4:06 p.m.

CITY OF NORTH PORT, FLORIDA

ATTEST:

BY: Thomas E. Jones
TOM JONES, COMMISSION
CHAIR

Helen M. Raimbeau
HELEN M. RAIMBEAU, MMC
CITY CLERK

Minutes approved at the Commission Regular Meeting
this 13th Day of November 2012.