Lighting in Ivins - LE Perspective

The purpose of this paper is to state the Public Safety Department's position on outdoor lighting. Part of the regulations is to address and promote the safety and security of the public.

It is a common belief that more lighting is safer and is a deterrence to crime. As the police chief, I tend to lean in that direction. I do acknowledge that some studies have results that show little or no effect on crimes when lighting is improved. Both positions can be argued.

It is generally believed that criminals risk greater apprehension as brighter lights make them more visible. Potential criminals [may] also assume that enhanced lighting equates to the organization of residents investing more in their properties and thus investing more into the prevention of crime. (Article: Flipping the Switch)

It is my position that effective lighting design can reduce crime. The lighting design should be strategic, taking into consideration the space, who uses it, when it is used, and the combination of other technologies. Those technologies can be timers, reflectors, cameras, or a combination of each.

It is clear that lighting in large parking areas such as a commercial grocery store is a must. Customers want to feel safe when entering and exiting vehicles at night. Lighting in parking areas such as Tuacahn is an example. Ineffective lighting is unsafe for walking, may encourage auto burglaries, and makes those in the parking lot feel vulnerable. Ask most women when they travel to a grocery store late at night what they are feeling when walking back to the car. The answer will be safety and lighting goes to the core.

Proper Lighting Design - Lights and Cameras Together
Lighting in neighborhoods and neighborhood streets can be a matter of personal choice. Lighting does affect the quality of life, given your preference. I enjoy and moved into an area for the night sky environment. The neighbors all have night lights, but the design has little or no effect on the night sky, but a bright light placed in the wrong location could virtually eliminate the night sky. Some arguments over lighting locations for security can be inaccurate.

Engineering and Attention to Traffic Safety
Lighting is essential to highly-traveled intersections where pedestrians and vehicles come together in "large" numbers. For example:

- 200 East and Snow Canyon Parkway
- Snow Canyon Parkway and Snow Canyon Drive
- Puerto Drive and 400 South

Our stats do not indicate a problem intersection; however, traffic on the Parkway is steadily increasing.

There has been some discussion on pedestrians and crossing where flags with reflectors may be helpful at night, where lighting may not be being considered. I believe the concept should be

considered as an example when minimal lighting combined with other considerations could address the safety issues.

Conclusions

We support 16.23.105 General Standards and Criteria

- (4) Fully shaded fixtures
- (7) Searchlights, Spotlights, Floodlights prohibited
- (10) Light Curfews (a): Commercial and Industrial Lighting
- (13) Commercial Security Lighting
- (17) Parking Lots - Appropriate locations [feedback from the Department should be considered during design]
- Current ordinance - Zoning Regulations Chapter 23 Outdoor Lighting addresses public safety concerns in regard to crime and public safety issues. But the Public Safety Department should be part of the lighting plans.
- Some current intersections and roundabouts should be reevaluated for lighting to address safety concerns regarding vehicle traffic and pedestrian crossing.
- Include the Public Safety Department in discussions for lighting at intersections
- Continue lighting in parks and parking areas - Lighting is satisfactory in those areas

The very high lighting located along the Parkway from 400 East to 400 West is no more effective for safety or crime than a more modern design in the newer intersections.