



# LED Street Lights

A High-Impact Action for the Clean Energy Communities Program

Communities and Local Government Team at NYSEERDA

# Clean Energy Communities Program

NYSERDA's Clean Energy Communities program provides grants, coordinator support, and a clear path forward to local governments that demonstrate leadership by completing NYSERDA-selected high-impact actions.

Who is eligible:

- ✓ **City, town, village, and county governments**

Easy to participate:

- ✓ **Local governments complete high-impact actions to earn grants and recognition**

Key advantages include:

- ✓ **Flexible grant funding with no local cost share**
- ✓ **Free coordinator support**
- ✓ **Recognition for your community's leadership**

# LED Street Lights

- By replacing conventional street lights with energy efficient LED technology, communities can reduce street light energy use by as much as 65 percent, generating cost savings and emission reductions.
- In addition, street light projects can contribute to creating a well-lit, safer, and more attractive community.
- LED street lights require much less maintenance than conventional street lights.
- Projects may incorporate smart, connected technology such as dimming functions or parking management.
- Even those communities that do not own their own streetlights have options for converting street lights in their jurisdiction to LED.

# Requirements

Complete one or more of the following to earn credit for the LED Street Lights action:

**Cobra Head Street Lights – 700 Points**

**Decorative Street Lights - 200 Points**

# Requirements (cont.)

## Cobra Head Street Lights – 700 Points

Demonstrate completion of this action by submitting the following documentation:

- Submit a completed LED Street Light Certification Form (accessed in the LED Street Lights toolkit at [www.nyserda.ny.gov/cec](http://www.nyserda.ny.gov/cec)) or comparable information demonstrating that a minimum of 50 percent of all municipal and utility-owned cobra-head-style street lights have been converted to LED within the geographic jurisdiction. This documentation should include the number of street lights converted, including the proportion of converted cobra-head street lights to total cobra-head street lights.
- A minimum of 10 fixtures must be converted to LED to qualify per jurisdiction.
- Date of completion is the date on which fifty (50) percent of the streetlights or, for those communities with less than 20 streetlights, 10 fixtures were converted to LED.

Communities that completed the LED Street Lights action prior to the launch of the Leadership Round will be awarded points retroactively.

# Requirements (cont.)

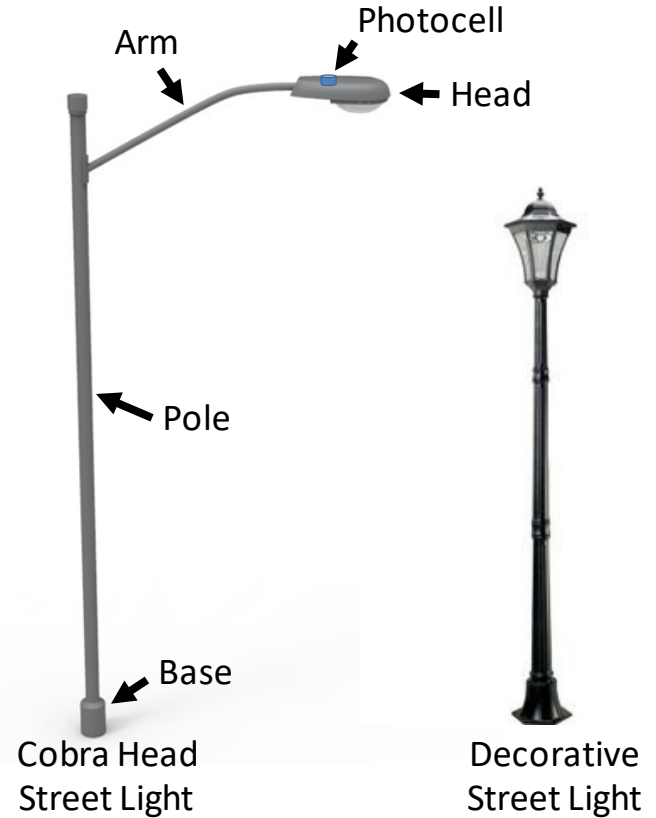
## Decorative Street Lights - 200 Points

Demonstrate completion of this action by submitting the following documentation:

- Submit a completed LED Street Light Certification Form (accessed in the LED Street Lights toolkit at [www.nyserda.ny.gov/cec](http://www.nyserda.ny.gov/cec)) or comparable information demonstrating that a minimum of 50 percent of all municipal and utility-owned decorative-style street lights have been converted to LED within the geographic jurisdiction. This documentation should include the number of street lights converted, including the proportion of converted decorative street lights to total decorative street lights.
- A minimum of 10 fixtures must be converted to LED to qualify per jurisdiction.
- Date of completion is the date on which fifty (50) percent of the streetlights or, for those communities with less than 20 streetlights, 10 fixtures were converted to LED.

# Municipal Street Lights

- Today, there are ~1.1 million municipal street lights in NYS
- Costs are typically a municipal expense, borne by local taxpayers
- The most common existing technology is High Pressure Sodium
- Street lights are typically unmetered



# LED Street Lights

- LEDs are energy-efficient – 60% to 70% energy savings
- Low-maintenance, high-reliability
- Improved lighting, color rendering, and safety
- Platform for smart, connected technology
  - Dimming, shot-spotters, intelligent parking systems, etc.



Examples of LED Street Lights



Photo credit: LED Street Light Conversions by Lumen Light Solutions

LEDs in foreground, HPS in background



# Utility Owned Street Lights - Options

For municipalities that do not own their own street lights, there are two possible pathways to LED streetlight conversion:

1. Upgrade to utility-owned LEDs, where available.
2. Purchase existing streetlights from the utility, and replace with municipally-owned LEDs.

# Purchase of the Street Light System

In October 2015, Governor Cuomo signed into law the Streetlight Replacement & Savings Act (PSL § 70-a) which establishes procedures for the transfer of street light system ownership from a utility to a municipality.

- Public Service Commission is requiring all utilities to establish a process to facilitate the transfer of ownership
- Price is negotiated between the municipality and the utility
- Municipality may file an application with the Public Service Commission
- Application requirements:
  - Inventory form w/ pole numbers, location and lighting type
  - Statement explaining the need for change in ownership, including anticipated financial impacts and plans to retrofit the fixtures with energy efficient lighting

# Municipal Owned Street Lights - Options

For municipalities that own their own street lights, there are a few possible pathways to LED streetlight conversion:

1. Issue an RFP for an Energy Performance Contract
2. Piggyback on a contract from another municipality
3. Participate in the New York Power Authority (NYPA) LED Street Light Program
4. Use in-house resources to procure and install LED Street Lights

# Energy Performance Contract

A common tool used by municipalities for financing and implementing energy efficiency improvements

Projects can typically be accomplished with no upfront costs in a way that will generate positive cash flow to the bottom line

The Energy Performance Contract will typically include:

- Comprehensive street light system audit
- Installation of LED street lights
- Financing
- Savings guarantee

Provisions that allow other municipalities to piggyback on the contract

# The Bottom Line

Implement the LED Street Lights high-impact action to:

- ✓ Cut costs
- ✓ Create a well-lit, safer, and more attractive community
- ✓ Reduce the carbon footprint

# Contact

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