



**COUNTY OF SAN MATEO**  
Inter-Departmental Correspondence  
Public Works



**Date:** August 6, 2014  
**Board Meeting Date:** September 9, 2014  
**Special Notice / Hearing:** None  
**Vote Required:** Majority

**To:** Honorable Board of Supervisors, Acting as the Governing Board of the Menlo Park Highway Lighting District

**From:** James C. Porter, Director of Public Works

**Subject:** Menlo Park Highway Lighting District Series Lighting Conversion Project in the Redwood City Area (County Project No. LM004, Project File No. 1/4922)

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Acting as the Governing Board of the Menlo Park Highway Lighting District, adopt a Resolution:

- A) Adopting plans and specifications, including conformance with prevailing wage scale requirements, for the Menlo Park Highway Lighting District Series Lighting Conversion Project in the Redwood City Area; and
- B) Authorizing the Director of Public Works to call for sealed proposals to be received by Wednesday, October 1, 2014 at 2:30 p.m., in the office of the County Manager/Clerk of the Board of Supervisors.

**BACKGROUND:**

Beginning in May 2013, streetlights on portions of Charter Street, Kaynyne Avenue, Sweeney Avenue, Douglas Avenue, Hurlingame Avenue, Warrington Avenue, Barron Avenue, Bay Road, and Spring Street in the North Fair Oaks area became problematic to maintain and are currently out of service due to the underground wiring system not being able to supply electricity to the streetlights (see Exhibit "A"). These streetlights were installed using outdated technology referred to as a series loop circuit connection that links the streetlights to each other and draws power from a single point. The downside to this type of electrical connection is when one light stops working, all the lights in the same circuit will also cease to work. After multiple attempts to repair the system and an evaluation conducted by a consultant, staff recommends converting the series loop circuit to a direct 120/240 volt system, which will result in each individual streetlight being connected directly to an electrical source.

**DISCUSSION:**

The Menlo Park Highway Lighting District Series Lighting Conversion Project (Project) consists of abandoning, in place, the existing series loop circuit wiring, installing new conduit and wiring on a 120/240 volt system, replacing the existing streetlights with new light emitting diode (LED) streetlights, and connecting the new LED streetlights to Pacific Gas & Electric Company's (PG&E) facilities on existing joint utility poles. The plans and specifications for the work have been prepared, and the Department is recommending that your Board authorize calling for bids for the proposed work.

Limited lighting on the affected streets, during the design and public bid process for the Project, has been provided by temporary streetlights installed on PG&E owned joint utility poles. The temporary streetlights will be removed once the conversion Project has been completed.

County Counsel has reviewed and approved the Resolution as to form.

Approval of this action will contribute to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of a Healthy Community by repairing and maintaining the integrity of the streetlighting infrastructure for the benefit of the public.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The total estimated construction cost for the Project is \$250,000 and is proposed to be financed by District funds.

There is no impact to the General Fund.

Attachment: Exhibit "A" – Street Light Outage Map

**Menlo Park  
Highway Lighting District  
Exhibit A - Street Light Outage Map**

