

Monash has about 8200 streetlights throughout the municipality that are 80 watt mercury vapour type lights.

In our Environmental Sustainability Road Map 2013-2017 Council identified that replacement of these streetlights with low energy streetlights would cut Council's greenhouse gas emissions by 18%; save Council millions through lower electricity bills and maintenance costs, and provide stronger lighting of local streets.

The project will cost \$3.3 million and rollout of the new T5 low energy streetlights will begin in December 2014. It is expected the works will take about five months.

### **Why have T5 streetlights been chosen?**

Only two energy efficient lighting options have been approved by United Energy, the distribution company that owns the lighting infrastructure. The T5 streetlights comply with the Australian Standard for lighting of local streets and have a superior performance to the existing streetlights. The lights are 28 watts compared to the existing 80 watt mercury vapour streetlights.

The new streetlights:

- provide more light where it is needed and less glare compared with the current streetlights, creating a safer environment for pedestrians, cyclists and drivers
- will last longer than the previous 80watt mercury vapour lights, requiring less frequent replacement.

### **What are the benefits?**

Council expects to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 3,000 tonnes per year and save over \$400,000 annually in electricity and maintenance costs. Initially these savings will be used to fund the project. The T5 lights use about 68% less energy than the 80W streetlights and direct more light where it is needed on footpaths and roads.

### **When is the installation starting?**

ETS Electrical Services are installing the streetlights and removing the old ones. The work will begin in December in Ashwood.

### **When will the works be undertaken?**

Works will take place on weekdays between 7 am and 6 pm. The project covers most streets in Monash and is expected to take 5 months.

### **When will my street be changed?**

Council will notify residents when works are due to begin in their area via a flyer in your letterbox.

### **How is this done?**

The changeover of streetlights involves an elevated work platform with two to three crew members. It takes about five minutes to replace each streetlight, so any disruptions to traffic in your street should only be minimal. Resident's cars can remain parked on streets during the works.

### **Is the electricity turned off in my home?**

There will be no disruption to electricity while this work is undertaken.

### **When the streetlights are turned on, is there a spike in the electricity?**

No, the new streetlights use a lot less electricity than the current streetlights and there have been no reports of electricity spikes.

### **What about other non-standard streetlights?**

Only the standard 80 watt streetlights are being changed. There are 5,650 other streetlights, including non-standard 80W heritage streetlights, 70 watt, 100 watt and higher streetlights that are not compatible with the low energy globes.

### What about glare?

The streetlights are more efficient than the current ones and so more light is directed where it is required onto the road and footpath area and therefore there is less light spill or glare.

### Who makes the streetlights?

The streetlights are made by Artcraft Urban Group and are manufactured from local and overseas components.

### How long do the streetlights last?

The luminaire (the main body of the light) will last about 20 years. The globes deteriorate over time so will be replaced every four years to ensure the light output is still suitable.

### Are the old streetlights recycled?

Yes, 98% of the old streetlight can be recycled and is a requirement in the contract. The plastic, metal and even the mercury is collected for reuse.

### Who fixes any damage to the naturestrip?

There should be no damage to the naturestrip. If any occurs, the contractor will undertake the repairs.

### Will they have any astronomy impacts?

The new streetlights use less energy, make more efficient use of the light and direct as much light as possible onto the road and footpath areas. This means that there is a lot less light spilt in other directions than the current streetlights.

### Why aren't we putting up LED streetlights?

Our power distributor, United Energy, has not approved LED or light emitting diode streetlights for use therefore we cannot install them. In addition, there is only one manufacturer that has been approved to manufacture LED streetlights for commercial installation in Victoria and the cost to purchase the lights through this manufacturer is significantly more expensive than an energy efficient T5 streetlight.

### Further questions?

To report that a streetlight is not working or if it remains on during the day, contact United Energy on 132 099, who maintain and repair the streetlights.

For further information about the rollout of streetlights contact Kim Hanisch, Infrastructure Special Projects Officer, on 9518 3709.

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