



# City of Oneonta LED Street Lights FAQ

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## **Why is the City changing out all the street lights?**

Changing to light-emitting diode (LED) street lights saves energy and money. When the entire system is converted to LED, it will save over 500,000 kWh per year and over \$130,000 in annual operating costs. LED light fixtures use less energy and last longer lasting than high-pressure sodium (HPS) fixtures, with a lifespan of approximately 20 years.

In addition to replacing fixtures, a “smart” control node will be installed with each fixture, allowing the City to remotely monitor and control its street lighting system. Ultimately, this means fewer outages, timely repairs, and more reliable street lighting throughout the City.

## **When does the project start and how long will it take?**

The project started July 2020 and is expected to be complete by the end of this summer.

## **When will the streetlight outside my house be replaced?**

The installation contractor, Weydman Electric, began work in the 5<sup>th</sup> Ward and will progress throughout the City from there. First, all “cobra head” style street lights will be replaced. Then, the contractor will replace light fixtures along I-88 within the City. Finally, the contractor will return to areas that have decorative lighting, such as downtown Main St, and install control nodes on those existing LED lights. In total, approximately 1,100 street lights will be replaced.

To see a map of where the crews will be working for the next two weeks, go to <https://www.oneonta.ny.us/announcements> and click on the “LED Street Light Project” link.

## **Will traffic be disrupted?**

Traffic disruptions will occur, but will be temporary and usually minor. The contractor will use one lane at a time, moving from light to light with bucket trucks and two-person crews. Light replacements move along quickly, typically taking less than ten minutes each.

## **What will the new light fixtures look like?**

The old “cobra head” style lights will be replaced with new ones. Downtown decorative fixtures are already LED, and will be removed and reinstalled with a new control node. This project replaces the light heads only. Poles and arms will be inspected and replaced only if found to be unfit for re-use.

Existing Lighting Fixtures	Proposed Lighting Fixtures
Cobra Heads	
	

### **Will the new street lighting look different at night?**

The new LED lighting on most streets, including residential neighborhoods, will be a 3000 Kelvin warm white color temperature as opposed to the more orange color of the old HPS lights. The 3000K color temperature is in line with the American Medical Association’s 2016 guidance and the recommendations of the International Dark-Sky Association. On roads with higher traffic and on I-88, a neutral white 4000K color temperature will be used, which will be slightly whiter in appearance than the 3000K color temperature lights.

### **There’s a problem with the light outside my house. How do I report it?**

First, write down the pole number. Then, if your light is a “cobra head” (not decorative) type, look up at the bottom of the light fixture to determine whether it’s an old light or a new one (refer to photo above). Then, please report the issue by emailing [dpsinfo@oneonta.ny.us](mailto:dpsinfo@oneonta.ny.us) anytime, or calling (607) 432-2100 on weekdays from 8am to 4pm. Be sure to report the pole number and the light type (old cobra head, LED cobra head, or decorative), along with the nearest street address and description of the issue with the light.