



CITY OF BALDWIN PARK PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New lighting brightens city, saves on utility bill

Baldwin Park among first groups to implement energy-saving system

BALDWIN PARK, Calif. (January 17, 2017) – Things are literally looking brighter in Baldwin Park these days. As of early this month, the city is among the first Southern California Edison (SCE) customers to officially upgrade its streetlights to the LS1 energy-saving light system.

City Manager Shannon Yauchzee said officials with SCE have been working since late November to replace Baldwin Park's existing streetlights with Light Emitting Diode (LED) bulbs. SCE associates replaced the last set of streetlight bulbs just after the New Year. The recent upgrades come at no cost to the city, since Baldwin Park's streetlights are owned and operated by SCE, according to officials. In fact, the city can expect to save as much as \$14,000 to \$20,000 a year in utility costs thanks to the new lights.

"Because LED lights are so efficient, most of our rates for streetlights will go down," said Yauchzee. "These lights also last a lot longer, and there will be a lot less outages that may often be inconvenient to residents and will save SCE the cost to replace those lights."

Yauchzee noted that SCE officials expect to recoup the cost of the new installations thanks to the long-term savings from the energy-friendly system.

The recent LED lighting project was approved by City Council last June after officials with the state of California and the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) approved a new rate for LED streetlights in communities served by SCE. A majority of Baldwin Park's street lights are owned

by SCE, Yauchzee said. Only a few, more decorative street lights are owned by the city, and officials have stated their intent to upgrade those to LED lights in the future as well.

Meanwhile, officials said residents have already expressed their approval of the new LED system that has come in to their respective neighborhoods.

“We’ve had several people say it’s brighter, and it makes things more clear. There’s less glare and less reflection on the sky, and there is better directed light onto the street,” said Yauchzee.

He also added that a Los Angeles city report also noted that improved lighting has led to reduced crime rates in neighborhoods. Among other benefits projected with the new LED streetlights are reduced energy consumption and reduced greenhouse gases, which, overall, help the environment.

For more information, contact Yauchzee at (626) 813-5204.

About Baldwin Park

The city of Baldwin Park is one of eighty-eight cities located within Los Angeles County with a population of more than 75,000 residents. For additional information, please call (626) 813-5201.

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