

# ALBANY CALIFORNIA



**CITY OF ALBANY**  
1000 SAN PABLO AVENUE  
ALBANY, CA 94706  
[www.AlbanyCA.org](http://www.AlbanyCA.org)

November 18, 2018

## **MEMORANDUM**

To: Albany City Council Members

From: Vice Mayor Peggy McQuaid

Re: Proposed City Lighting Policy and Request for \$6,500 from City Council Discretionary Funds to Implement Lighting Set Up and Installation

## **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Council:

1. Consider development of a lighting program and provide any feedback for incorporation into an official City Council Lighting Policy; and
2. Authorize up to \$6,500 from the City Council Discretionary Funds to implement lighting set up and installation

## **DISCUSSION**

Events both local and global as well as routine celebrations or observances, will be recognized by the City of Albany by lighting the tower at the Community Center with appropriate colored lights. This is a fitting way to engage our community, celebrate success, acknowledge patriotic events, or note global occurrences.

### **Examples of occasions for lighting could include:**

- Local professional sports team championships
- Local high school (Albany or St. Mary's) team championships (athletic or academic)
- National holidays
- September 11
- Global events

- Earth Day
- Social causes

**Selection of events:**

Lights will be turned on for significant events impacting the community. A specific list of events warranting recognition will be approved by the city council. Lights will be turned on for a specific day or a maximum of 2 days.

**Examples (in addition to those listed above):**

- Pride
- Child Abuse Awareness
- Bicycle Safety
- Mental Health Awareness
- Suicide Prevention
- Colors of a nation suffering from a human or natural disaster.

There will be no lighting for political campaigns or personal events. No religious holidays will be observed.

Council will determine the scope of the events and occasions to be recognized during the following calendar year by resolution at a meeting of the City Council each December. Some of these will be routine celebrations such as national holidays and others will be other lightings such as to recognize Pride Month or Bicycle Safety Month, Breast Cancer Awareness Month, etc. and should correspond to a proclamation issued by the City Council.

Community members may request lighting for a specific cause by application to council. These may be submitted any time during the year and also should correspond to an issued proclamation.

I am requesting \$6,500 from the City Council discretionary fund to support the set up and installation of this lighting project. The expenses are as detailed in “option two” of staff’s cost estimate.

**SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT**

Lighting events can include environmental awareness days such as Earth Day.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT**

The City of Albany will contribute up to \$6,500 from the City Council Discretionary Funds. Staff time shall be budgeted for project management of the lighting installation as well as ongoing scheduling of different lighting colors to implement the list of lighting display events as adopted by the Council annually.

**Attachment:**

1. Staff cost estimates for installation of lighting at Albany Community Center Tower

# 2019 Lighting Policy Install Options

## Option 1 - less than \$1,000

Utilize existing LED stage/event lighting, more ongoing staff time. Would be a good “proof of concept” first step

	PRO	CON
<b>Set-up</b>	We already know how to set-up and program this light system	Equipment is stored off-site and will need to be transported to the Community Center for lighting.  All lights would need to be manually carried up 2 flights of stairs and left in place for the duration of any lighting event.  Plan on 3-4 hrs. of staff time to set-up and take down per lighting instance.
<b>Electrical</b>	Moderate cost to add electrical outlet at the top of the tower.	Power cables, control cables and lights would be just sitting on the floor at the top of the tower.
<b>Equipment</b>	City of Albany already owns a basic lighting controller and stage lights	Stage lighting requires more lights to illuminate the tower.
<b>Programming</b>		Limited to single colors
<b>Experience</b>		Not as bright, not as visible from afar
<b>Cost</b>	Likely less than \$1,000 - cost of electrician to add electrical outlet	
<b>Other</b>	Purchasing a different lighting controller could allow specific colors to be displayed in sequence	Equipment not available on a consistent basis.  It is conceivable that someone could come up the stairs and take the equipment without permission

## Option 2 - less than \$6,500

Purchase new equipment, install only inside top of tower

	PRO	CON
<b>Set-up</b>	No set-up required, lights are installed	Installation cost of light system would be higher up-front
<b>Electrical</b>	Moderate cost to add electrical outlet at the top of the tower.	Will have to run control cable to top of the tower, increasing the cost of the electrical installation
<b>Equipment</b>	<a href="#">Swisson XRC-200 DMX Recorder</a> Program color sequences, control with preset "scenes"  <a href="#">COLORdash Batten-Quad 6</a> Interior lights	Will involve mounting lights to existing light fixture at the top of the tower
<b>Programming</b>	Once programmed, easy to operate	Learning curve, teaching staff to operate lights
<b>Experience</b>	More visible from afar	
<b>Cost</b>		More expensive
<b>Other</b>	Easily expandable to control other lighting set-ups in the building	

## Option 3 - between \$15 - \$25K

Purchase new equipment, install inside top of tower, tower exterior and inside of hall skylight

	PRO	CON
<b>Set-up</b>	No set-up required, lights are installed	Installation cost of light system would be higher up-front
<b>Electrical</b>		Higher cost of electrical installation in all lighting locations  Will have to run control cable to top of the tower, increasing the cost of the electrical installation
<b>Equipment</b>	<a href="#">Swisson XRC-200 DMX Recorder</a>  Program color sequences, control with preset "scenes"  <a href="#">COLORdash Batten-Quad 6</a> Interior lights  <a href="#">Colorist POD 7QA</a> Exterior lights	Will involve mounting lights to existing light fixture at the top of the tower, mounting lights on the exterior of the tower, and the interior of hall, in the skylight.
<b>Programming</b>	Once programmed, easy to operate  Most flexible option	Learning curve, teaching staff to operate lights
<b>Experience</b>	Even more visible from afar, more dramatic and brighter. Best experience for viewer	
<b>Cost</b>		More expensive, will need to rent a lift
<b>Other</b>		