

# FAQ-LED Street Lighting Project

## **Q: What are LED lights?**

**A:** LEDs, or light-emitting diodes, use solid-state technology to convert electricity into light. Put simply, LEDs are very small light bulbs that fit into an electrical circuit. Unlike traditional bulbs, they don't have a filament that burns out and they don't get very warm.

## **Q: Why is York County converting lights included in the Public Streetlight Program to LED?**

**A:** Nationally, localities are retrofitting their street light fixtures to LED for the same reason residents are switching to LED lights in their homes - they last far longer than traditional lights, use far less energy, offer greater visibility, and are, overall, more reliable. LED streetlights use 40 to 60 percent less electricity when compared to conventional high-pressure sodium (HPS) streetlights, and they last up to three to four times longer. LEDs also provide more uniform light, which often improves feelings of safety and security

In partnership with Dominion Energy Virginia, who will perform the streetlight LED conversions and maintain the lights (as they currently do with the existing HPS streetlight fixtures), the County will save energy, promote sustainability and help provide our citizens with an enhanced sense of safety and security.

## **Q: How much will the LED streetlight conversion project cost and how much will the County save?**

**A:** Once full streetlight conversion is completed, the County expects energy savings of about \$30,000 annually.

The total project is expected to cost about \$150,000 over the span of several years. This upfront cost to convert the lights is recouped in the long run because LED fixtures are more energy efficient and last significantly longer than HPS fixtures.

## **Q: How the county paying for the LED streetlight conversion project?**

**A:** Funding for this project comes from Fiscal Year 2022-2027 Capital Improvements Program (CIP) funding. The County will pay back the initial amount through annual energy cost savings.

## **Q: Why is Dominion Energy installing these LED lights?**

**A:** Currently, all existing and proposed streetlights included in the York County Public Streetlight Program are operated and maintained by Dominion Energy Virginia. Therefore, they will be responsible for converting the existing HPS lights to LED, in partnership with the County.

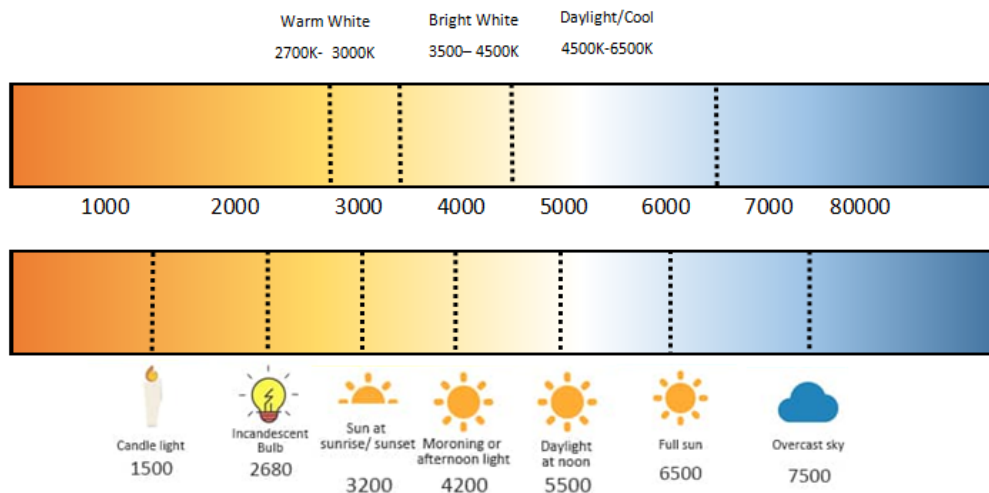
## **Q: What kind of LED lights are Dominion Energy installing?**

**A:** Dominion Energy will be replacing existing streetlight fixtures that are currently included in the County's public streetlight program with energy-efficient LED fixtures. The new fixtures will feature a 3,000 kelvin color temperature LED and the replacement fixtures themselves comparable to the HPS fixtures being replaced.

**Q: What is color temperature?**

**A:** Color temperature is a way to describe the light appearance provided by a light bulb (lamp). It is measured in degrees of Kelvin (K) on a scale from 1,000 to 10,000. Typically, commercial and residential lighting application Kelvin temperatures fall somewhere on a scale from 2000K to 6500K. In York County, the LED lights to be installed will be in the 3000K range. The 3000K color temperature is more “warm/yellow” than the traditional 4000k LED color temperature, and is intended to be similar to the color temperature of the existing HPS streetlights.

## COLOR TEMPERATURE

**Q: How many streetlights is Dominion replacing as part of the LED streetlight conversion project?**

**A:** This project will replace all of the streetlights included in York County Public Streetlight Program, which totals to around 989 lights, including lights owned by the York County Schools Division.

This project does not include any lights *not* in the County public streetlight program, including: privately-owned streetlights, streetlights located on a VDOT traffic signal, HOA-billed private “watchlights”, and lights owned by other government agencies.

**Q: Who do I contact to address further questions?**

**A:** If you have any questions or concerns regarding this project or regarding LED conversion work being completed by Dominion Energy in your neighborhood, please contact York County Development Services at (757) 890-3531.