

# Dark Skies Update to City Council Review of Draft Ordinance

by  
Vice Mayor Doug Congress  
November 4, 2014

# Background

- ▶ The original Dark Sky Ordinance was initially adopted June 6, 2000 with a compliance date of January 1, 2015
- ▶ In response to concerns raised by residents & property owners we conducted a field survey of the level of compliance

# Background

- ▶ A house by house survey found that the current Dark Sky compliance varied from 9% to 17%. In the same survey the percentage of homes found dark varied from 64% to 67%.
- ▶ On June 17, 2014 City Council unanimously amended our Codes to adjust the compliance date to January 1, 2018 with a commitment to review possible Code updates

# Background

- ▶ Major considerations in drafting the legislation is the security & safety lighting needs, particularly in meeting the needs of our senior population, while protecting our environment
- ▶ It is important to note that we are NOT considering amending the Marine Turtle Lighting Codes & at this time ALL Marine Turtle Lighting Codes remain in effect

# Background

Source materials utilized from the International Dark-Sky Association; the South Florida Chapter of the International Dark Sky Association, the legislation of other communities with Dark Sky Legislation

# Background

After several discussions, in August City Council approved Vice Mayor Congress working with the Staff to bring forth a DRAFT Ordinance for discussion by City Council which Council will discuss today

# Criteria for Draft Ordinance

To ensure success the Dark Sky standards must be:

- ▶ Clear
- ▶ Objective
- ▶ Equitable
- ▶ Unambiguous
- ▶ Supported by the Citizens

# Draft Ordinance

- ▶ Section 126–996 Definitions
  - Definitions added for:
    - Landscaping Lighting
    - Pathway Lighting
    - Unshielded Lighting
    - Pole–Mounted Lighting

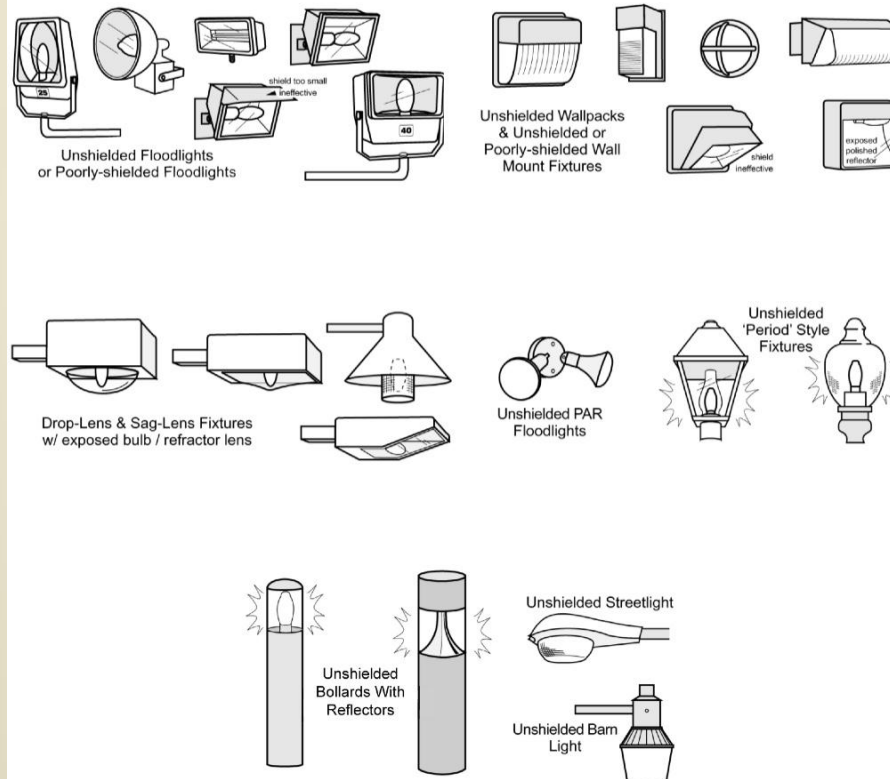


# Draft Ordinance

- ▶ Section 126–997 – Outdoor lighting generally
  - New or replacement luminaries must comply with ordinance
  - Existing non-compliant luminaries are grandfathered until replaced
  - NO Grandfathering for Uplighting and unshielded pole lights – must be replaced by 1 / 1 / 18.

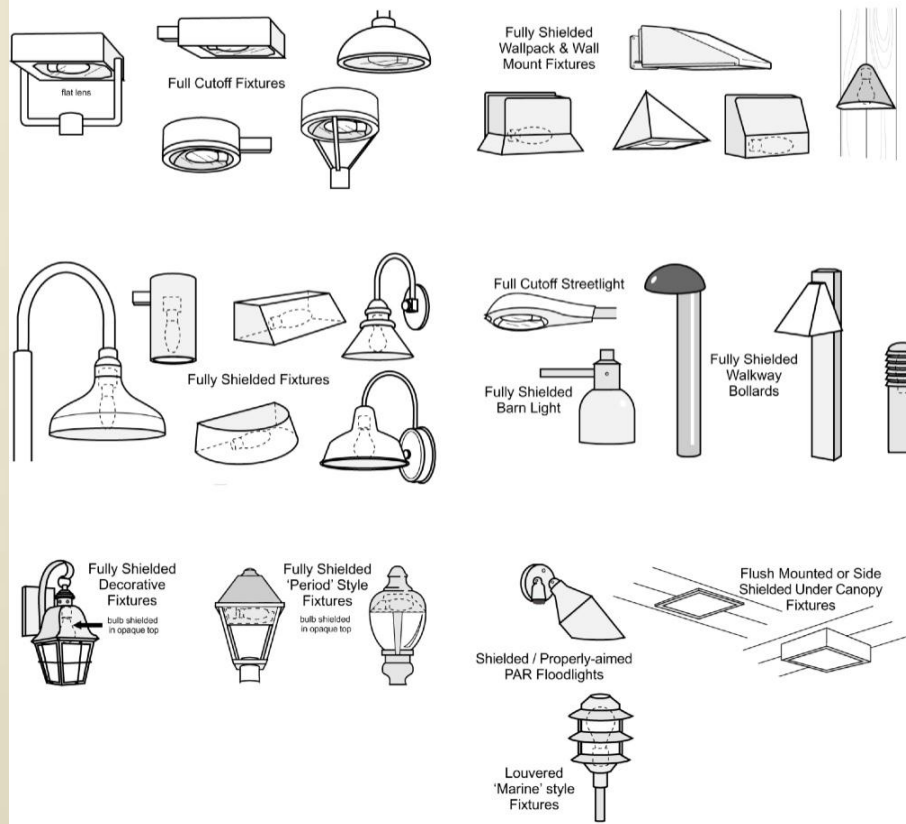
# Fixtures that Produce Light Trespass & Glare

**Noncompliant:** Fixtures that produce light trespass and glare



# Fixtures that are Dark Sky Compliant

**Compliant:** Fixtures that shield the light source to minimize glare and light trespass and to facilitate better vision at night



# Draft Ordinance

Section 126-998 (new section)

- ▶ Creates a voluntary certificate of Luminaire Compliance

# Draft Ordinance

Section 126–1000 Beachfront lighting for marine turtle protection – Newly installed artificial lighting sources

- Includes minor revisions to conform with Fish and Wildlife standards

# Next Steps....

- ▶ City Council reviews the Draft Ordinance, when approved by Council refers to Planning Commission inasmuch as this is a Land Development Code amendment
- ▶ Upon Planning Council approval
- ▶ First Reading before City Council
- ▶ Second Reading before City Council followed by a vote by City Council
- ▶ Education Program developed & approved

# Questions & Discussions