



MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Montre D. Freeman, City Manager
Dwan Bell, Public Utilities Director

Date: February 10, 2022

Re: Discussion - Harbor Towns Ferry Lighting Audit at Water Front Park

BACKGROUND:

Harbor Towns, Inc. is a private, non-profit organization that serves all people, businesses, and town and county governments in the Albemarle Sound region of northeastern North Carolina. The objective of the group is to work in partnership with the five harbor towns in this region to bring the opportunity to host and use a dinner boat and two “fast ferry” boats creatively to drive economic development and tourism in each community. The five harbor towns are: Elizabeth City, Edenton, Hertford, Plymouth, and Columbia. Vessels include a 140-guest dinner and excursion boat currently being renovated, and two 30-passenger Hysucat fast ferry boats being built. Waterfront Park has been designated as the safest, most feasible, and accommodating harbor.

A.R. Chesson Construction held a coordination meeting regarding this Inner Banks Ferry project on Wednesday, January 18th at 9:00 a.m. at Waterfront Park to share the initial project scope of work and gather input and concerns from all departments in an effort to begin and smoothly transition through the planning phase of this project. Additionally, Mayor Rivers tasked Public Utilities to assess temporary lighting for safety and visibility.

ANALYSIS:

City leadership, including Parks & Recreation Director Sean Clark, Parks & Recreation Superintendents Darris Sawyer and Jeff Simpson, Electric Department Foreman Donnell White met on-site during and after hours to conduct a street light study assessing the most common industry lighting issues, i.e. flickering, glare, contrast, distribution, and lumens. In total, seven decorative black fluted poles with recently upgraded 250 watt LED bulbs and acorn style fixtures currently line the boardwalk north to south from the former Waterworks of Elizabeth City building to the Charles Creek Bridge.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

This is an item for Council discussion and not does necessarily require action at this time; however, the Waterfront Park light audit concluded that lighting for this up-and-coming project was inadequate as defined in the project scope. To remedy, members of the team recommended installing four (4) General Electric Evolve LED Series high output 1000 watt floodlights in pairs at both ends of the park, positioned to illuminate the entire park and dock as shown below. For situational awareness, the light fixtures are readily available to the City at a cost of approximately \$6,204 total.



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