

## MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Craig A. Stough 5/23/2024

### "LED Streetlights Underway"

The update of streetlights to LED within the City of Sylvania, authorized by City Council in 2022, is finally underway. Replacement began April 15, 2024 and is anticipated to take 12 to 15 months to complete. (LED is short for Light Emitting Diode)

Sylvania City Council authorized \$342,000 to Toledo Edison for replacing 1,650 existing streetlights fixtures with LED lights. The new LED lights are about 50% more efficient than the existing high-pressure sodium lights, and are expected to save the City and its residents an estimated \$77,000 annually in energy costs.

The LED lights are also expected to last 15 to 20 years, compared to 3 to 5 years for the existing lights, additionally saving maintenance expenses in the future. Return on the City's investment is estimated to take approximately 4.5 years.

Significant improvement in visibility and security following LED streetlights installations have been reported in other nearby communities. The LED lights are more reliable and consistently brighter over their lifetime than the high-pressure sodium lights they are replacing.

Main roadways, such as Monroe, Alexis, McCord, etc., will be receiving 4,000 Kelvin, 50-watt replacement fixtures, which are brighter fixtures. Residential areas will be receiving 3,000 Kelvin, 50-watt fixtures, which are less bright and more appropriate for residential areas.

City of Sylvania residents and businesses are assessed on their property tax bills for street lighting. The average assessment is 16¢ per front foot of the parcel, or about \$12 annually for a 75-foot wide residential lot.

The updating of the streetlights is a natural continuation of Sylvania's reinvestment in our residential neighborhood infrastructure. Streets have been repaved or replaced, catch basins rebuilt, waterlines replaced, and trash, material recycling and green waste recycling service provided. Sylvania neighborhoods continue to be among the most desirable in the area, keeping our property values high and vacant property rates low.

