



# *City of Apache Junction*

## *Development Services Department*



Date: January 3, 2024

To: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

Through: Bryant Powell, City Manager  
Rudy Esquivias, Development Services Director

From: Kelsey Schattnik, Senior Planner

Subject: January 16, 2024, City Council Old Business Item:  
Urban Night Sky Place ("UNSP") Status Update

### Background

In September 2022, Staff made the decision to pursue an Urban Night Sky Place designation for the City Hall Campus. The campus includes City Hall, the Library, Multi-General Center (& associated parks), and the Police Department.

Staff submitted an Urban Night Sky Place application to Dark Sky for review in May 2023 and received feedback from Dark Sky in June 2023. We were informed that at least 67% of outdoor, onsite lighting must be retrofitted before an application is considered complete. With that knowledge, Staff have worked with TRANE Technologies (vendor) over the past few months to obtain a budget for retrofitting all outdoor, City Hall Campus lighting.

### Current Status

We received a budget from TRANE in October 2023 for an approximate project total of \$260,000. Once we received this budget, Staff began looking into grant funding for the project.

Two (2) primary grants were identified for the project. The first is the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG), which can be used to fund general energy efficiency projects. The second is the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program = Arizona Department of Housing (ADOH): Community Development Block Grant - Regional Account (CDBG-RA), which can be used to fund projects at locations designed for public use.

Due to the timing, use and money allocated by each grant, Staff has decided to split the project into two (2) phases. The locations, budget, and timing of each phase is outlined below:

*Phase 1:*

- **Location:** City Hall and Police Department
- **Estimated Cost:** \$102,114.07
- **Items Included:** All outdoor lighting including the parking lots, walkways, sconces, etc., as well as controls for the PD walkway, sconce lights etc.
- **Funding Source - U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) :**
  - Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program = \$76,310
    - Liz Langenbach, Parks & Recreation Director, is looking into other sources to make up the difference.
- We anticipate EECBG funding to be available in Spring 2024.
- Anticipated Completion of Phase 1: Spring 2024
- TRANE to assist with submitting SRP rebates.

*Phase 2:*

- **Location:** Library, MGC and Park
- **Estimated Cost:** TBD
- **Funding Source - U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) :** Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program = Arizona Department of Housing (ADOH): Community Development Block Grant - Regional Account (CDBG-RA) = approximately \$130,000
- We anticipate funding being available in Fall 2024.
- Anticipated Completion of Phase 2: Spring 2025
- TRANE to assist with submitting SRP rebates.

While these updates will allow City Hall Campus to achieve Urban Night Sky Place status, it will also increase energy efficiency onsite and provide essential updates for the maintenance department to better control campus lighting.