



# Metropolitan Nashville and Davidson County, TN

## Legislation Text

---

**File #:** BL2021-974, **Version:** 1

---

An ordinance amending Title 17 of the Metropolitan Code of Laws regarding the design and operation of outdoor electrical lighting to clarify application of Dark Sky regulations by public utilities and on public property (Proposal No. 2020Z-014TX-002).

WHEREAS, BL2020-535 was adopted on April 6, 2021, creating regulations regarding the design and operation of outdoor electrical lighting to achieve light pollution reduction consistent with International Dark Sky Association guidelines; and

WHEREAS, the local public electric utility has historically provided safety lighting at low cost to certain small commercial businesses and residential properties through a rental program, and the utility desires to continue being able to meet this need; and

WHEREAS, new lighting technology can enable the installation of lighting that will have less of an impact on skyglow and light trespass than historic technologies.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL FOR OF THE METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY:

Section 1. That Section 17.28.100 of the Metropolitan Code of Laws is hereby amended by adding subsection 17.28.100.B.3 as follows:

3. Public Utility Rental lighting: Security lighting installed by the local public utility through a rental program is subject to Sections D, E1,E2, and F.

Section 2. Be it further enacted, that this ordinance take effect five days from and after its passage and such change be published in a newspaper of general circulation, the welfare of The Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County requiring it.

### Analysis

This ordinance amends Title 17 of the Metro Code to clarify how leased public utility security lighting as a type of lighting is regulated by the Lighting section of the Zoning Code (Section 17.28.100). Currently, this type of lighting is not well accounted for, as the regulatory framework of the Lighting section of the Zoning Code is divided between residential/agricultural and commercial applications. If the ordinance is adopted, the lighting type, intensity and uniformity, color temperature, and luminaire standard of leased public utility security lighting would be regulated by the Zoning Code.

This item was recommended for approval by the Planning Commission at their November 18 meeting.