



City of South Fulton Government

NEWS RELEASE

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City Seeks to Improve Pedestrian Safety with Streetlight Master Plan

(City of South Fulton, GA – July 30, 2020) Streets in the City of South Fulton soon will be safer to walk as officials have approved the hiring of a consultant to develop a streetlight master plan for areas with pedestrian traffic.

City council members signed off on a contract Tuesday with TSW, Inc., which has developed similar plans for other Georgia cities, including Kennesaw, Augusta, Lawrenceville, Woodstock and Stockbridge.

“Building on our commitment to ensure the safety of every resident, we want to provide well-lit corridors that allow people to move about safely and efficiently,” said Mayor William “Bill” Edwards. “This plan provides snapshot of where we have adequate lighting and where new streetlights are needed.”

TSW will start by developing an inventory of the city’s existing streetlights and by assessing where additional lights are needed. The consultant then will develop a list of recommended options for meeting those needs as well as plan for building out the city’s streetlight network.

The plan also will highlight the various types of controls technologies the city can put in place to enhance streetlight use at city parks, pedestrian crossings, bus shelters and residential districts. Officials also hope to determine how enhanced lighting can help in the fight against crime and illegal dumping.

“One of the innovative ways we have been working to reduce criminal activity through environmental design by building into our infrastructure options that make it harder on criminals,” said Police Chief Keith Meadows. “Enhanced lighting along streets and sidewalks can play a big part in that.”

Meadows said proper lighting also will cut the number of pedestrian accidents, which he said accounted for nearly half of South Fulton’s traffic fatalities last year.

As it launches the master plan, the city’s Public Works Department will conduct a meeting to ensure all parties have a clear understanding of the planning process.

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“The proposed masterplan will incorporate existing zoning ordinances, consultation with local power companies and input from residents and other stakeholders through a robust community engagement plan,” said Antonio Valenzuela, the city’s director of public works. “It will also outline estimated costs and timeframes for project implementation and any recommendations for needed coordination beyond city boundaries.”

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