

**City Of Victor**  
**Ordinance No. 06-0222-7**  
**City of Victor, Idaho Outdoor Lighting Ordinance**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF VICTOR REGULATING OUTDOOR LIGHTING WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF VICTOR; PROVIDING FOR DEFINITIONS; COMPLIANCE; GENERAL REQUIREMENTS; EXCEPTIONS; PROHIBITIONS; OPERATION OF LIGHTING, AND PENALTIES FOR PUBLIC, COMMERCIAL, AND RESIDENTIAL LIGHTS; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF PRIOR ORDINANCES INCONSISTANT THEREWITH; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND ESTABLISHING EFFECTIVE DATE;

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VICTOR, IDAHO AS FOLLOWS:

**OUTDOOR LIGHTING**

**A. What This Chapter Does:** This Chapter requires specific types of light fixtures and lighting levels for commercial, public, and residential lights in Victor. The purpose is to provide for the health, safety and general welfare of the residents of Victor by providing even, adequate lighting for safety and security that is not excessive, does not interfere with vision because of glare, is even to avoid excessive visual adjustment to varying light levels, permits the viewing of the night sky, and is not obtrusive to homes and public places.

**B. Definitions.**

The following definitions apply to this chapter. Terms not defined here shall be interpreted first according to definitions in other Chapters or according to their conventional meaning.

Luminaire - The complete lighting unit, including the lamp, the fixture, and other parts.

Foot-candle (fc). The American unit used to measure the total amount of light cast on a surface (illuminance). For example, the full moon produces .01 foot-candles. Foot-candles are measured with a light meter.

Fully shielded. The luminaire and its mounting, taken as a whole, allow no direct light above the horizontal.

Glare. Stray light striking the eye that may result in (a) nuisance or annoyance glare such as light shining into a window; (b) discomfort glare such as bright light causing squinting of the eyes; (c) disabling glare such as bright light reducing the ability of the eyes to see into shadows or (d) reduction of visual performance.

Height (of light). The height shall be measured from finished grade to the lamp center or lens surface, whichever is lower.

Holiday lighting. Strings of individual lamps, where the lamps are at least three inches apart and the output per lamp is not greater than fifteen (15) lumens.

**Illuminance.** The amount of light falling on any point of a surface measured in foot-candles. All illuminance values in this ordinance shall be initial values based on new lamps and fixtures.

**Lamp.** The generic term for an artificial light source, to be distinguished from the whole luminaire.

**Lighting Plan.** Documents specific to a project or development that describe the location and characteristics of all exterior lighting and the light levels in and adjacent to the property.

**Light trespass.** Light falling on the property of another or the public right-of-way when it is not required to do so.

**C. Proof of compliance.** Commercial building plans, conditional use permits, and subdivision applications shall provide information to show compliance with this Chapter.

1. Projects with limited lighting may provide the proposed location, height, and orientation of lighting fixtures, fixture details, supports, shielding, and lamp specifications.
2. For major projects, the Planning and Zoning Administrator may require any or all of the following:
  - a. Manufacturer's photometric data: plots of illuminance, product specifications or access to IES-formatted electronic data files for the installation.
  - b. Photometric Layout showing luminaires and initial and maintained horizontal and vertical illuminance within the site and to 20 feet beyond the property boundary, maxima, minima, and uniformity ratios on a grid no greater than 10x10 feet.
3. Deviations from requirements of this Chapter may be granted upon prior approval of the Planning and Zoning Commission on the basis of project size or the nature of the lighting. The applicant must demonstrate each of the following:
  - a. The proposed deviation is justified by unusual circumstances and appropriate to the location of the lighting and the surrounding neighborhood;
  - b. The proposed deviation will not unreasonably diminish the health, safety, or welfare of the surrounding neighborhood uses; and
  - c. The proposed deviation substantially conforms to these exterior lighting regulations. The Planning and Zoning Commission may approve, deny, or approve with conditions any such application submitted under this subchapter.

**D. General Requirements.** All exterior lighting not exempted by E shall meet the following requirements

1. Exterior Lighting. Exterior lighting shall use fully shielded fixtures.
2. Exterior lighting shall be designed and installed so as to prevent light trespass.

**E. Exceptions.** This article does not apply to the following applications, except as provided in this subchapter:

1. Residential fixtures in Residential Districts and Transitional Business Districts shall conform to the provisions of Section H. of this Chapter
2. Holiday lighting.
3. Emergency Lighting: All temporary emergency lighting needed by the fire and police departments, or other emergency services.
4. Lighting Of Towers: Lighting of radio, communication and navigation towers; provided the owner or occupant demonstrates that the federal aviation administration (FAA) regulations can only be met through the use of lighting that does not comply with this article.
5. Playing Field Luminaires' height: Luminaires used for playing fields and courts shall be exempt from the height restrictions of this article provided all other provisions of this article are met and the light is used only while the field or court is in use.
6. Lighting for Flags: Lighting for flags provided:
  - a. the flag is a United States of America or State of Idaho official flag
  - b. the light is shielded to prevent glare
  - c. the maximum lumen output is one thousand three hundred (1,300) lumens.

Downlighting of flags is encouraged.

**F. Prohibitions.** The following applications are prohibited, unless they are exempted by E.

1. Flashing, blinking, intermittent lights or other lights that move or give the impression of movement are prohibited.
2. Searchlights, high intensity floodlights, laser source lights, illusion lights, or any similar high intensity light are prohibited.

**G. Public and Commercial Lights**

1. Parking area and other freestanding luminaires: The height of parking area luminaires shall not exceed twenty feet (20'). Parking area lights are encouraged to be greater in number, lower in

height and lower in lumens, as opposed to fewer in number, higher in height and higher in lumens. Parking lot lighting shall not exceed a maximum initial horizontal illuminance of 4.0 foot-candles.

2. Canopy Lights, service station lighting, and outdoor retail areas: All luminaires mounted on or within the lower surface of a canopy shall be recessed or fully shielded in-and-of themselves, with flat glass or plastic lenses. Shielding provided by the surrounding canopy structure or the edge of the canopy is not sufficient to meet this standard. The illuminance level shall not exceed the levels in Appendix B of this Chapter.

3. Sign lighting:

- a. Externally lit signs shall be illuminated only with steady, stationary, shielded light sources directed solely onto the sign from above without causing glare. Lamps used for illuminating a sign shall be simple in form and should not clutter the building or structure. All light sources should shine only down.
- b. Lights which flash or move in any manner, colored lights, and exterior neon signs are prohibited.
- d. Internally lit signs shall have a dark or opaque background.

4. Streetlights shall be high pressure sodium, unless otherwise determined by the Planning and Zoning Board that another type is more efficient. Streetlights along residential streets shall be limited to 70-watt high pressure sodium (hps) light with maximum rated lamp lumens of six thousand four hundred (6,400). Streetlights shall have light distributions or “house side shields” that limit lighting of residences, and will be between 12 – 20 feet in height. Streetlights are discouraged in areas that are naturally dark.

**H. Residential Lights.** This section shall apply to residential districts and Transitional Business Districts.

- 1. Exterior lighting on residences brighter than a 60 watt incandescent light shall be shielded so that no light is projected above the horizontal, and the lamp shall be diffused or shielded so that it can not be seen from public areas or roadways or any other property.
- 2. Floodlights: Floodlights are discouraged. Floodlights on residences with external shielding shall be permitted provided that they are angled so that the centerline of the light beam is directed below a thirty degree (30°) angle measured from the vertical line from the center of the light extended to the ground, and only if the fixture does not cause glare or light to shine on adjacent property or public rights of way. Motion detector lights are encouraged, but they shall meet the requirements for floodlights.

## **I. Operation of Lighting**

1. **Nonessential Lighting:** All nonessential exterior commercial and recreational lighting shall be turned off after business hours and/or when not in use. Lights on a timer are encouraged. Sensor activated lights that shut off 5 minutes after activation ceases are encouraged if lights are needed for security purposes.

**J. Existing Lighting.** All existing exterior lighting installed before the effective date of this article shall be brought into conformance with this chapter within the following time periods:

1. All existing exterior lighting located on a subject property that is part of an application for design review approval, a conditional use permit, subdivision approval, or a building permit is required to be brought into conformance with this article before issuance of a certificate of occupancy, final inspection or final plat recordation, when applicable. For other permits, the applicant shall have a maximum of thirty (30) days from date of permit issuance to bring the lighting into conformance.

2. All other existing exterior lighting on property used for residential, commercial, institutional, or any other public and semipublic uses that is not in conformance with this article shall be brought into conformance with this article within five (5) years from the date of adoption of this article.

**APPENDIX A: Typical initial lamp-output ratings, in lumens.**

Lamp Type	Lamp Wattage	Initial Lumen Output
Incandescent lamp (frosted) (Syl.)	25	235
Incandescent lamp (frosted) (Syl.)	40	375
Incandescent lamp (frosted) (Syl.)	60	890
Incandescent lamp (frosted) (Syl.)	100	1,690
Incandescent lamp (frosted) (Syl.)	150	2,850
Incandescent flood or spot (G.E.)	75	765
Incandescent flood or spot (G.E.)	120	1,500
Incandescent flood or spot (G.E.)	150	2,000
Quartz halogen lamp (frosted) (Syl.)	42	665
Quartz halogen lamp (frosted) (Syl.)	52	885
Quartz halogen lamp (frosted) (Syl.)	72	1,300
Quartz halogen lamp (frosted) (Syl.)	300	6,000
Quartz halogen lamp (frosted) (Syl.)	500	10,500
Quartz halogen lamp (frosted) (Syl.)	1,000	21,000
Quartz halogen flood or spot (G.E.)	20	260
Quartz halogen flood or spot (G.E.)	42	630
Quartz halogen flood or spot (G.E.)	50	895
Quartz halogen flood or spot (G.E.) (all 12-volt MR-16 type)	75	1,300
Fluorescent lamp (Phillips)	7	400
Fluorescent lamp (Phillips)	9	600
Fluorescent lamp (Phillips)	13	900
Fluorescent lamp (Phillips)	22	1,200
Fluorescent lamp (Phillips)	28	1,600
Fluorescent lamp (Phillips)	40	3,150
High pressure sodium lamp (diffuse) (G.E.)	35	2,250
High pressure sodium lamp (diffuse) (G.E.)	50	4,000
High pressure sodium lamp (diffuse)	70	6,400

(G.E.)		
High pressure sodium lamp (diffuse) (G.E.)	100	9,500
High pressure sodium lamp (diffuse) (G.E.)	150	16,000
Lamp Type	Lamp Wattage	Initial Lumen Output
High pressure sodium lamp (diffuse) (G.E.)	250	27,500
High pressure sodium lamp (diffuse) (G.E.)	400	50,000
Mercury vapor lamp (white deluxe) (Syl.)	100	4,500
Mercury vapor lamp (white deluxe) (Syl.)	175	8,500
Mercury vapor lamp (white deluxe) (Syl.)	250	11,100
Mercury vapor lamp (white deluxe) (Syl.)	400	20,100
Metal halide lamp (coated) (G.E.)	32	2,500
Metal halide lamp (coated) (Venture)	50	3,400
Metal halide lamp (coated) (G.E.)	100	9,000
Metal halide lamp (coated) (G.E.)	175	15,750
Metal halide lamp (coated) (G.E.)	250	20,500
Metal halide lamp (coated) (G.E.)	400	36,000

Information from Sylvania #PL-150, General Electric #9200, and Phillips #SG-100 large lamp catalogs.

**Appendix B**

Maximum Initial Illuminance Levels for Service Stations and Outdoor Retail Areas

Area description	Maximum Illuminance
Approach	4.0
Driveway	4.0
Pump Island or Merchandise Area	20
Building Facades	5
Services Area	5

Reference: Based on Dark Areas portion of Table 8, IESNA RP-33-99 Service Station or Gas Pump Area Average Illuminance Levels, with adjustments to maximum initial values.

**SEVERABILITY.** Each section and provision of this ordinance are hereby declared to be independent divisions and subdivisions and notwithstanding any other evidence of the legislative intent, it is hereby declared to be the controlling legislation intent that if any provisions of said chapter, or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held to be invalid, the remaining sections or provisions and the application of such sections and provisions to any person or circumstances other than those to which it is held invalid, shall not be affected thereby, and it is hereby declared that such sections and provisions would have been passed independently of such section or provision so known to be valid. If any section, sub-section, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be unconstitutional, or unenforceable for any reason, such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

The Mayor and Council hereby declare that they would have passed this Ordinance and each section, sub-section, sentence, clause and phrase thereof separately and irrespective of the fact that any one or more of the other sections, sub-sections, sentences, clauses or phrases be unconstitutional or unenforceable.

**EFFECTIVE DATE**

This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage, approval, and publication according to law.

ADOPTED BY THE VICTOR CITY COUNCIL AND APPROVED BY THE MAYOR THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2006.

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR, CITY OF VICTOR

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Craig Sherman – City Administrator