

Answers to frequently-asked questions about street lights in Mankato

What is the purpose of street lights?

Street lights and street signals are provided for pedestrian and vehicle safety.

Who owns and maintains street lights in Mankato?

Many street lights located within city limits are owned and maintained by the electric utility (Xcel Energy or BENCO). The city pays a fixed monthly fee to the respective electric utility depending on the style of lighting and light wattage.

The city also owns some street lights in Mankato and is responsible for the maintenance. City-owned, metered street lights are typically low-level decorative lights. The city pays a meter reading charge and energy costs based on actual power consumption.

How does it get decided where street lights are placed?

Mankato has a guiding policy designed to promote pedestrian and vehicle safety that's fair and affordable online: www.ci.mankato.mn.us/upload/images/PI/City-of-Mankato-street-lighting-guiding-policy.pdf.

How do we pay for street lights in Mankato?

The city of Mankato uses a street light utility fee. This fee is collected from all properties within the city for maintenance of city street and traffic lights throughout the community. All properties in the city share in the cost because everyone benefits.

Residential properties pay a street light utility fee of \$2.50/month.

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How do we pay for street lights in Mankato? *(continued from page 1)*

A separate fee structure is proposed for properties other than residential (cost is generally based on amount of street frontage):

Residential :

- ◆ 2-3 units..... \$3.25/month
- ◆ 4+ units..... \$.85/unit

Commercial:

- ◆ less than 75 feet..... \$2.50/month
- ◆ 75 feet or more..... \$.05/per linear foot frontage

Industrial :

- ◆ less than 75 feet..... \$2.50/month
- ◆ 75 feet or more..... \$.05 per linear foot frontage

Government/education/hospital/

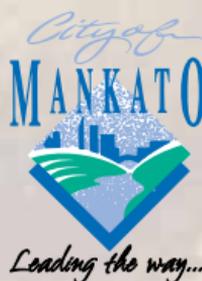
- non-profits: \$.05 per linear foot frontage*

Where can I go to learn more about the street light utility fee?

In the Mankato city code, section 3.74 online:
www.ci.mankato.mn.us/upload/images/PI/City-code-section-3-74.pdf.

How do I report outages/problems?

Outages/problems can be reported by contacting staff at 311 or 507-387-8600 or online:
www.ci.mankato.mn.us/CustomerService.



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