N.J. Board of Public Utilities Helps Atlantic City and Atlantic City Electric to Upgrade Streetlights with LED Technology

- LED streetlights improve safety and conserve energy -

Atlantic City, N.J. - New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (Board) President Richard S. Mroz joined Atlantic City Mayor Don Guardian and Vince Maione, Atlantic City Electric (ACE) region president, at the New York Avenue Elementary School to mark the beginning of a citywide project to upgrade streetlights with LED technology that will improve lighting, conserve energy, and significantly reduce energy costs. Atlantic City is utilizing Board approved funding to help replace more than 8,600 streetlights with LED streetlights throughout the community.

The project’s total cost of approximately $10 million is partially funded with both state and federal funding provided by the Board through New Jersey’s Clean Energy Program (NJCEP). Approximately 5,638 streetlights owned by ACE will be replaced with LEDs in the first phase of the project. In a second phase, more than 3,000 streetlights owned by Atlantic City will be replaced.

“My fellow commissioners and I are happy to help Atlantic City upgrade to new high energy efficient LED streetlights that will greatly improve lighting, make the community safer, and reduce the town’s street lighting energy usage by nearly fifty percent,” said President Mroz. “And I’m excited to be here at the New York Avenue Elementary School today to highlight the efforts of everyone involved in this project that will provide a safer environment for children across Atlantic City to walk to school and play outside.”

“We are pleased the BPU is providing the funding to help Atlantic City replace its street lights with a much more desirable lighting option that will help to make our city safer while reducing our use of electricity,” said Mayor Guardian. “The quality of light provided by these new LEDs will allow us to provide a safer community for our residents. We are very proud to work closely with our partners Atlantic City Electric and the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities."
“This important partnership with the City of Atlantic City and the BPU will enhance public safety and will help the City save money and energy,” said Vince Maione, Atlantic City Electric region president. “LED streetlight technology is one example of how we are advancing innovative technologies that are transforming the future energy experience for our customers.”

Atlantic City currently budgets approximately $2 million annually for energy to light its streets. With LED lights installed, it is estimated that Atlantic City will save approximately $200,000 annually.

Atlantic City will use approximately $750,000 of $2 million in federal funds provided by the Board to pay the installation costs for streetlights owned by ACE, while ACE supplies the LED equipment. The balance of the federal funds, approximately $1.25 million, will be used to replace streetlights owned by the city. Atlantic City is also participating in NJCEP’s Smartstart program, which offers incentives for energy efficiency improvements for commercial, industrial, and local government facilities. The program offers incentives for LED streetlights ranging from $50 to $150 per light, depending on the product utilized.

The project is expected to reduce energy consumption by approximately 4.6 million kWh, resulting in the reduction of approximately 7.2 million pounds of CO₂ per year; the equivalent of removing 625 cars from the road.

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