

Chautauqua Street Light Modernization Project – Key Facts

1. Chautauqua Utility District (CUD) has the responsibility for street lighting and long has contracted that to National Grid. Today \$55,000 of the annual property owner's real estate taxes goes to pay for street lighting.
2. The CPOA has worked closely with the Chautauqua Utility District (CUD) and the Chautauqua Institution (CI) in gathering information, interfacing with manufacturers to provide technical and cost details and in securing financial support from CPOA members. The goal is to provide a modern lighting system with a common, consistent look to all the street lighting in Chautauqua regardless of ownership.
3. CUD and CPOA have negotiated with National Grid about improving lighting on the Grounds; researched multiple options; and orchestrated a series of demonstration projects on the Grounds to gather reaction from residents. As a result CUD and CPOA have concluded that CUD should cease contracting with National Grid and instead should purchase the existing lighting assets, replace and upgrade them and operate the street lighting for Chautauqua. **This will be dependent upon the CUD approving the final contract which is not yet available.**
4. National Grid will continue to be the electric provider. This will not affect electric service on the Grounds.
5. CUD will replace and upgrade the existing lighting fixtures so that Chautauqua has better quality lighting that enhances Chautauqua's ambiance. New fixtures with directed light have less glare, low light trespass, and less wasted light pollution (Dark Sky friendly).
6. The new fixtures will be long life (17 years), energy efficient and have wattage and warm color appropriate for residential settings, something unavailable were the CUD to continue contracting the service to National Grid.
7. The new fixtures will consume far less electricity, saving money for CUD from the moment of installation and reducing the exposure of Chautauquans to possible spikes in the future cost of electricity.
8. The project could cost as much as \$800,000, most of it for buying and installing the new, efficient fixtures. The savings from eliminating the \$55,000 annual payment to National Grid will easily pay for the project over the 20-30 year life of the light fixtures. This project is expected to deliver better quality street lighting for less than the \$55,000 annually paid National Grid and should not trigger an increase in the annual CUD assessment. **The CUD only will approve the final contract if it is of financial benefit to the property owners of Chautauqua.**

CPOA recommends that you vote YES for the Chautauqua Street Light Modernization Project on the second Tuesday in August (August 9, 2016) in the Colonnade: 1-4 PM