

The District • Downtown Community Improvement District 11 S. Tenth Street • Columbia, Missouri 65201 • (573) 442-6816 discoverthedistrict.com

February 22, 2019

City of Columbia Mayor Brian Treece & Members of the City Council 701 E. Broadway P.O. Box 6015 Columbia, MO 65205

Dear Mayor Treece and Council Members:

The Downtown Community Improvement District would like to provide this letter in support of the enhanced street lighting plan and the accompanying elements for execution of the plan as presented to you by the Water & Light Department staff.

The Downtown Community Improvement District's Board of Directors and staff have been working on this project with the Columbia Police Department and the Water & Light Department for a number of years. Indeed, The District has committed \$30,000 to assist with the funding of the project, specifically to pay for photo cells which will allow the light levels to be adjusted as needed.

We believe it is time for this project to be approved and moved forward. There is no doubt that the new street lights will substantially enhance the public's safety and the safety of the Columbia Police Department officers that work in The District. Please also remember that there are hundreds of our fellow citizens that work in The District at night and would also benefit from the new street lights as they walk home or head to their vehicles.

The new lighting will, in addition, assist in dispersing visitors that exit bars and drinking establishments in the early hours of the morning, thus mitigating to a great extent problematic behavior by individuals and groups.

The new and enhanced street lighting is also a cost-efficient preventative tactic that can be modified by the Columbia Police Department working with the Water & Light Department and business owners in The District.

We appreciate the dedication the Water & Light Department has shown as this initiative has moved for many years through the approval process. We look forward to working with them as the job of installation of the new street lights begins.

Sincerely,

Bob Hohenstein Executive Director

DOWNTOWN COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

cc: John Glascock, Interim City Manager

Ryan Williams, P.E., Assistant Director-Water & Light Department

Geoff Jones, Interim Chief of Police

Deb Sheals, Chair of the Board-Downtown CID