

RE: Intro. 0822-2015

Dear . . .

We are providing you with information about an introduced bill that will help abate the problems being experienced by City residents from the installation of high Kelvin LED streetlights.

First, here is the link to Int. 0822-2015 which Council Member Donovan Richards introduced when he was chair of the Committee on Environmental Protection: <http://tinyurl.com/jxwn7jp>

The Sierra Club NYC Group, to which we belong, endorses this legislation and we are currently working with several individuals and organizations throughout NYC to mobilize support for Intro. 0822-2015.

The legislation remedies the harsh glare caused by the new LED streetlights by mandating that the color temperature of all LED streetlights installed in NYC should be limited to a maximum of 3000 Kelvin, the rating used to measure color temperature. The new LED streetlights, by contrast, have an excessively high rating of 4000 plus Kelvin.

Council Member Helen Rosenthal, who represents me in the City Council, is a co-sponsor of the legislation.

We would very much appreciate co-sponsorship of Intro. 0822-2015, especially given your support for key City Council environmental and quality of life initiatives.

At the hearing for this legislation, we will have an opportunity to suggest ways to improve the legislation; for example, by setting a lower maximum Kelvin rating of 2700, which has been implemented in other cities, and specifying that the LED streetlights should be fully shielded as designed and properly installed to direct the light downward.

Here is some additional information about the problems and solutions concerning the new LED streetlights:

1. A New York Times Op Ed by Lionel Shriver, "Ruining that Moody Urban Glow," <http://tinyurl.com/qzkbdhx>

2. A New York Times article by Matt Chaban, "LED Streetlights are Saving Energy but Exhausting Residents," <http://tinyurl.com/h4rk5d7>

3. See also attached the Talking Points/Call to Action that we have outlined and the five main reasons for supporting the City Council legislation.

I hope that you will join Council Members Richards and Rosenthal in supporting Intro. 0822-2015. We will be glad to answer any questions that you may have about the legislation and/or the supporting materials that we have provided.

Signed,
Lisa/Susan