

Becker's Lane Bridge Project update – Nov. 6, 2020

The project team hosted the final community meeting on October 15. The team noted they would evaluate if the number of poles on Becker's Lane could be reduced, which fixture type should be used on the bridge, and share any updates with stakeholders for comment. Since the meeting, the project team has communicated or met with several stakeholders to discuss the lighting plan.

The lighting plan presented at the October 15 meeting includes six "Shepherd's Crook" type light fixtures on Becker's Lane, and four "Acorn" type fixtures on Becker's Bridge. The acorn fixtures are similar to those on Manitou Avenue; however, the team submitted a request to Colorado Springs Utilities (CSU) to use reduced wattage for these fixtures. The Shepherd's Crook Fixture is consistent with "dark sky" type lighting. Both fixtures would shed a similar amount of light on the ground.

Acorn Type Fixture



Shepherd's Crook Type Fixture



For Becker's Lane, the project team recommends that lighting be provided at all transitional areas, such as where the multiuse trail changes direction and crosses the street. The team notes that lighting should be planned to provide a consistent experience for the driver; if lighting is too spread out or insufficient, it can be distracting and unsafe. Staff believes that the current layout uses the minimum number of lights (6) needed to maintain a consistent light experience for drivers on Becker's Lane.

The project team considered the fixture type and number on the bridge. The team believes that four lights is an appropriate number as too few could cause an issue for visibility. The team is awaiting a response from CSU on the reduced wattage. The team recommends using the Acorn type lighting and notes that it would not be a problem to change the lighting type after it is installed if it seems inappropriate.

In addition, the project team and stakeholders discussed the existing "Cobra" style lighting on El Paso Boulevard - the approximately 30-foot high light poles near the athletic fields. Staff will contact CSU to explore whether it would be possible to add a shield to this fixture to deflect more light to the ground.

We will keep you posted on any new developments.

Thank you,

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Becker's Lane Project Team**