

**From:** [David Ginter](#)  
**To:** [Trianovich, Amanda](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Town of Westport, Request for Comments on Draft Text Amendment to Incorporate Dark Sky Principles  
**Date:** Friday, November 3, 2023 8:39:48 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)

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Good morning Amanda,

Overall I don't have many thoughts/comments on this as we don't typically design the lighting. Two items that do pop into my mind when reading the new regulation:

1. Why mounting no more than 16 feet in height? It may be a reasonable number but I do know with lower mounting heights you get less coverage from a light (thinking parking lot) which means additional lights would be needed. Again, not a designer so could be overthinking and 16 feet makes sense.
2. 44-5.5.1.f – what is your definition of net acre? Does this get calculated like you do with overall lot area by removing the steep slopes and wetlands?

**DAVID GINTER, P.E.**

203.327.0500 x15105

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**From:** Trianovich, Amanda <[atrianovich@westportct.gov](mailto:atrianovich@westportct.gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 2, 2023 1:17 PM  
**Cc:** Young, Mary <[maryyoung@westportct.gov](mailto:maryyoung@westportct.gov)>; Perillie, Michelle <[mperillie@westportct.gov](mailto:mperillie@westportct.gov)>; Cohn Neil <[ncohn@westportct.gov](mailto:ncohn@westportct.gov)>; Dobin Danielle <[ddobin@westportct.gov](mailto:ddobin@westportct.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: Town of Westport, Request for Comments on Draft Text Amendment to Incorporate Dark Sky Principles

Good Afternoon,

I am reaching back out to our local commercial developers regarding a draft text amendment to incorporate [Dark Sky Principles](#) as listed under the [International Dark-Sky Association](#) to our current lighting standards. Please note, this is not a formal text amendment at this time and we would incorporate these standards to only new or alterations to commercial sites. This would not affect our single-family residential developments at this time.

**A Zoning Regulation Revision/Sustainability Subcommittee meeting has been scheduled for next Wednesday, November 8, 2023, at 12 p.m. An Agenda will be posted on our [Subcommittee Webpage](#) in the next coming days.**

Please advise if you have any questions, comments, or concerns as we welcome your feedback!

Sincerely,

**Amanda Trianovich**

Planner

(203) 341-1077



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**From:** Trianovich, Amanda

**Sent:** Friday, September 15, 2023 3:06 PM

**Cc:** Young, Mary <[maryyoung@westportct.gov](mailto:maryyoung@westportct.gov)>; Perillie, Michelle <[mperillie@westportct.gov](mailto:mperillie@westportct.gov)>; Cohn Neil <[ncohn@westportct.gov](mailto:ncohn@westportct.gov)>; Dobin Danielle <[ddobin@westportct.gov](mailto:ddobin@westportct.gov)>

**Subject:** Town of Westport, Request for Comments on Draft Text Amendment to Incorporate Dark Sky Principles

Good Afternoon,

The Town of Westport's P&Z Zoning Regulation Revision and Sustainability Subcommittee is seeking feedback from our local commercial developers regarding a draft text amendment to incorporate [Dark Sky Principles](#) as listed under the [International Dark-Sky Association](#) to our current lighting standards. Please note, this is not a formal text amendment at this time and we would incorporate these standards to only new or alterations to commercial sites. This would not affect our single-family residential developments at this time.

The dark-sky movement is a campaign to reduce light pollution. The advantages of reducing light pollution include an increased number of stars visible at night, reducing the effects of electric lighting on the environment, improving the well-being, health, and safety of both people and wildlife and cutting down on energy usage.

The movement started with professional and amateur astronomers alarmed that nocturnal skyglow from urban areas was blotting out the sight of stars. Nocturnal animals can be harmed by light pollution because they are biologically evolved to be dependent on an environment with a certain number of hours of uninterrupted daytime and nighttime. The over-illumination of the night sky is affecting these organisms (especially birds). This biological study of darkness is called Scotobiology. Light pollution has also been found to affect human circadian rhythms.

The dark-sky movement encourages the use of full-cutoff fixtures that cast little or no light upward in public areas and generally encourages communities to adopt lighting regulations.

The draft text amendment was discussed during the Zoning Regulation Revision and Sustainability Subcommittee on July 26, 2023, and September 13, 2023. There have been many discussions over the luminosity and color of the lights to be permitted. Please see the attached draft text for reference. Recordings of the meetings can be heard [here](#) and information and minutes can be read

[here.](#)

There is no scheduled date at this time for the next Subcommittee meeting to which we hope to receive full support from the Subcommittee to file a formal Text Amendment to the P&Z Commission.

We welcome your feedback!

Sincerely,

**Amanda Trianovich**

Planner

(203) 341-1077



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