



TOWN OF KILL DEVIL HILLS

Land Where Flight Began

MEMORANDUM

July 13, 2020

TO: Mayor and Board of Commissioners

FROM: Debora P. Díaz, Town Manager

REF: New Business

1. Proposed modifications to Lighting Standards – LED Accent Lighting (Attached NB-1)

At its May 27, 2020, meeting, the Board of Commissioners directed Staff to research potential avenues to permit LED accent lighting on commercial structures. The Planning Department has developed several options for consideration, which have been highlighted in Director Meredith Guns' attached memorandum. Items selected by the Board will be incorporated into a recommended amendment to Chapter 153.077 Signs, which will be formally presented to the Planning Board for consideration.

Staff requests Board guidance on regulations to be included for consideration.

Director of
Planning and Inspections
MEREDITH GUNS

Building Inspector
MARTY SHAW
CHARLES THUMAN

Code Enforcement Officer
JORDAN BLYTHE



Assistant Director of
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CAMERON RAY

Senior Planner
RYAN LANG

Zoning Administrator
DONNA ELLIOTT

**THE TOWN OF KILL DEVIL HILLS
NORTH CAROLINA**

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

July 13, 2020

Memorandum

To: Debbie Diaz, Town Manager

From: Meredith Guns, Planning Director 

Subject: Proposed modifications to Lighting Standards – LED Accent lighting

On May 27, 2020 the Board of Commissioners directed staff to look at some alternatives that would allow some LED accent lighting on commercial structures. The guidance from the Board included limiting the height of accent lighting on structures, small scale accent lighting, minimize light pollution and protect wildlife in oceanfront area limit proliferation of lighting on a structure.

Staff has developed the following regulations for Board consideration:

1. Clearly define LED String Accent Lights - lines of LED lighting no greater than 2 inches in diameter that are continuous. For purposes of this chapter the light string shall be straight continuous colored lined.
2. LED String Accent Lights shall be parallel to the ground (no shaped or other outlining permitted)
3. LED String Accent Lights shall only be allowed on one structure per commercial site. No more than two (2) Strings of LED String Accent Lights shall be permitted and strings cannot be separated by more than four (4) feet.
4. LED String Accent Lights shall be limited to one color per commercial site.
5. LED String Accent Lights may not suggest movement, no flashing, intermittently illuminated or appear to be flashing or glittering.
6. LED String Accent Lights shall be located no higher than 15 feet from finished grade on the site.
7. LED String Accent Lights shall be permanently affixed to the structure not hanging or temporary attached to the structure (temporary attachment includes adhesive).
8. LED String Accent Lights will only be allowed in the Commercial Zone. (This will keep this type of lighting off the Oceanfront which could be harmful to wildlife and disrupt our "Dark Sky" initiative).
9. LED String Accent Lights must be maintained and proper working order. Strings that are partially lit or not functioning properly will be required to be turned off until removed or repaired.

ATTACHMENT NB-1

Page 2: Lighting Standards – LED Accent lighting

Staff will incorporate the Board selected regulations into a code amendment to Chapter 153.077 Signs to be presented to the Planning Board for a formal recommendation. This will be part of the sign ordinance because the intent is to attract attention to a business. The Town's lighting ordinance is more focused on safety and security lighting while limiting lighting that may affect adjacent property owners.