



Darci Carlson &lt;dcarlson@springdale.utah.gov&gt;

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## Dark Skies comment

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**Ric Rioux** <rrioux@springdale.utah.gov>

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To: Stan Smith <:ssmith@springdale.utah.gov>, Suzanne Elger <selger@springdale.utah.gov>, Adrian Player <aplayer@springdale.utah.gov>, Lisa Zumpft <lzumpft@springdale.utah.gov>, Randy Aton <raton@springdale.utah.gov>  
Cc: Tom Dansie <tdansie@springdale.utah.gov>, Darci Carlson <dcarlson@springdale.utah.gov>, Katy Brown <kbrown@springdale.utah.gov>

Council members,

I would just like to make some comments regarding the Dark Sky certification application. One of the truly remarkable features in Springdale is the dark skies that we have here. I am in awe each and every evening and early morning as we walk our dogs. I am aware that back in 2009 the town created some ordinances to work toward being an International dark sky community. In our General Plan that was last updated in July of 2016 chapter 7.4.1.c the implementation strategies was to take the necessary steps to become certified by the International dark sky association as a dark sky community. The planning commission over this past year has done an extensive amount of work with the input and feedback of the community to update our General Plan. Through surveys, and interviews we have gathered a lot of feedback as to what the Vision of Springdale will be going forward. Some of the same things that were important in the vision from the last revision are still equally important or more so today. Dark skies is one of those, along with the enforcement of our ordinances. This is not just my opinion, this is the feed back from many interactions and feedback from our community. I am currently working with Robyn Henderek to see how we could work in correlation with the park in the dark sky area. Robyn had mentioned how Springdale has been a longtime supporter of dark skies and that the adoption of the 2009 lighting ordinances was just one example of the towns commitment. I think this is a critical point in time for the town to be the unique small village town with dark sky certification that separates us for any town USA. I just ask that you give serious consideration to this very achievable goal that the residents and visitors have desired for quite some time. We have invested 12 years in this process, I hope we can complete it in the next couple of years.

I thank you all for your consideration in this,

Ric Rioux