

5-8 OUTDOOR AND SITE LIGHTING

5-8(A) PURPOSE

This Section 14-16-5-8 is intended to enhance the attractiveness and livability of the city, protect the safety of its residents, reduce light pollution between private properties, and prevent unnecessary sky glow that reduces visibility of stars in the night sky.

5-8(B) APPLICABILITY

Examples of Fully Shielded Luminaires



5-8(B)(1) General

All sources of light visible from the exterior of a property shall comply with the standards of this Section 14-16-5-8 unless specified otherwise in this IDO. The standards of this section shall apply to both new lighting and the replacement of fixtures (excepting lamp replacement), regardless of type, mounting, or location.

5-8(B)(2) Exemptions

The following types of lighting are not subject to the requirements of this Section 14-16-5-8

5-8(B)(2)(a) Outdoor light fixtures on advertisement signs on interstate highways

5-8(B)(2)(b) Outdoor light fixtures existing and legally installed prior to the effective date of this IDO that do not comply with provisions of this IDO not contained in the New Mexico Night Sky Protection Act, provided that when existing light fixtures become unrepairable, their replacements are subject to all the provisions of this Section 14-16-5-8.

5-8(B)(2)(c) Navigational lighting systems at airports and other lighting necessary for aircraft safety.

5-8(B)(2)(d) Outdoor light fixtures necessary for worker safety at farms, ranches, dairies, feedlots, or industrial, mining, or oil and gas facilities.

5-8(B)(2)(e) Lighting for outdoor recreational uses such as ball diamonds, playing fields, tennis courts and similar uses, provided that all of the following requirements are met:

1. Light poles are not more than 30 ft. tall.
2. Maximum illumination at the property line is not brighter than 200 foot lamberts.
3. Exterior lighting is extinguished no later than 11:00 P.M. except to complete an activity that is in progress prior to 11:00 P.M.

5-8(B)(2)(f) Lighting for outdoor recreational uses in the NR-PO-B sub-zone that exceeds the standards in this Section 14-16-5-8 but complies with a Master Plan approved by the EPC.

5-8(B)(2)(g) Illuminated and electronic signs are regulated in Section 14-16-5-12 (Signs).

5-8(C) PROHIBITED LIGHTING

5-8(C)(1) Searchlights and spotlights are prohibited, except when used to illuminate alleys, parking structures, and maintenance areas. Where allowed for these purposes, such lights must be shielded and aimed so that they do not result in lighting on any adjacent property or public right-of-way exceeding 200 foot lamberts.

5-8(C)(2) Notwithstanding Subsection (1) above, all searchlights, spotlights, and floodlights are prohibited within 500 feet in any direction of the boundary of any area regulated by Division 30-VI-2 of the Bernalillo County Code of Ordinances (North Albuquerque Acres and Sandia Heights Light Pollution Ordinance).

5-8(C)(3) Lighting that is designed to be flashing, traveling, animated, or intermittent is prohibited, except for seasonal displays discontinued within 7 calendar days of the holiday for which the lighting was provided.

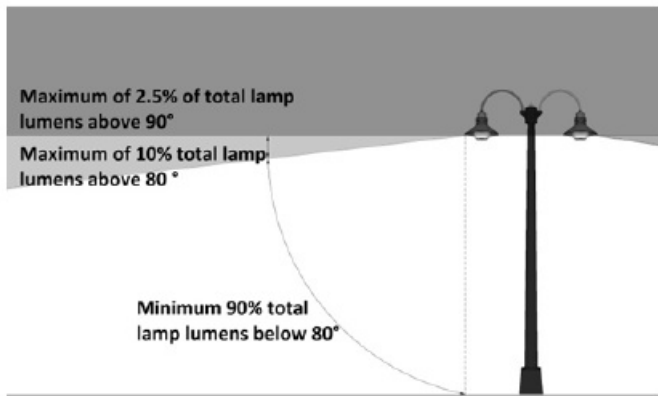
5-8(C)(4) Light types of limited spectral emission, such as low pressure sodium or mercury vapor lights, are prohibited. Light sources shall be color-correct types such as Halogen, LED, or metal halide.

5-8(D) GENERAL DESIGN AND ILLUMINATION

All sources of light visible from the exterior of a property subject to this Section 14-16-5-8 shall meet all of the following standards.

5-8(D)(1) All outdoor lighting with light fixtures that are 150 watts or greater for incandescent light sources or 70 watts or greater for other types of light sources shall meet all of the following requirements.

5-8(D)(1)(a) Light fixtures shall be shielded using full cutoff light fixtures (i.e. a light fixture with zero intensity at or above 90 degrees above nadir and limited to a value not exceeding 10 percent of lamp lumens at or above 80 degrees).



5-8(D)(1)(b) No light source for any outdoor light fixture shall be directly visible from a distance greater than 1,000 feet in any Residential zone district.

5-8(D)(1)(c) All outdoor lighting shall be aimed so that light spillover onto the area 10 feet beyond the property line shall not exceed 200 foot lamberts as measured from the property line facing the light source.

5-8(D)(1)(d) Outdoor light fixtures shall have a minimum light intensity of one lumen per square foot and a maximum intensity of 2 lumens per square foot unless specified otherwise in this IDO.

5-8(D)(1)(e) All outdoor light fixtures within any Residential or Mixed-use zone district shall remain off between 11:00 P.M. and sunrise except for security purposes or to illuminate pedestrian walkways, driveways, drive aisles, equipment yards, and parking lots.

5-8(D)(1)(f) All outdoor light fixtures shall generate at least 80 lumens per watt of energy consumed, as shown on the manufacturer's specifications for the fixture.

5-8(D)(2) Any sports lighting, floodlights, or searchlights allowed by this Section 14-16-5-8 shall be turned off between 11:00 P.M. and sunrise.

5-8(D)(3) The height of light poles, measured from the finished grade to the top of the pole, shall comply with the standards in Table 5-8-1 unless Part 14-16-2, Part 14-16-3, or any Use-specific Standard in Section 14-16-4-3 provides a different standard, or unless the property is located in the NR-PO-B sub-zone and the pole heights comply with a Master Plan approved by the EPC.

Table 5-8-1: Maximum Height for Light Poles

Zone District	Maximum Height, ft
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Residential zone districts and HPO zones	16
Mixed-use zone districts	20
Non-residential zone districts	30
Within 100 feet in any direction of any Residential zone district	16
Adjacent to Major Public Open Space	20

5-8(D)(4) All outdoor light fixtures mounted on a building or structure other than a light pole, except for security lighting, shall be mounted at least 6 feet and no more than 15 feet above grade or no higher than 7 feet above the floor of a stoop or porch unless specified otherwise in this IDO.

5-8(D)(5) Light fixtures installed in canopies or similar structures shall be flush-mounted or recessed above the lower edge of the canopy and shall be equipped with flat lenses that do not project below the canopy ceiling. The canopy fascia shall not be internally illuminated.

5-8(D)(6) All sources of light for non-residential development (excluding uses in the Lodging category) other than outdoor light fixtures as regulated above that are visible from the property line shall not exceed 300 foot lamberts as measured from the property line.

5-8(D)(6)(a) In UC-MS-PT areas, if the non-residential development is located within 10 feet of the property line, this measurement is taken from the mid-point of the abutting right-of-way, or from a distance of 50 feet, whichever is closer.

5-8(D)(6)(b) Neon signs are exempt from this requirement.

5-8(E) ADDITIONAL STANDARDS FOR SPECIFIC TYPES OF LIGHTING

5-8(E)(1) Pedestrian-scale Lighting

Pedestrian light fixtures shall comply with all of the following standards.

5-8(E)(1)(a) Pedestrian-scale lighting, including lighting for sidewalks, walkways, trails, and bicycle paths, shall provide an illumination of at least 1 foot candle, not to exceed 4 foot candles.

5-8(E)(1)(b) Pedestrian light poles shall be mounted no higher than 12 feet above grade and shall be placed a maximum of 100 feet apart.

5-8(E)(1)(c) Pedestrian bollard lamps shall be mounted no higher than 4 feet above grade and shall not exceed 900 lumens for any single lamp.

5-8(E)(2) Decorative Outdoor Lighting

Outdoor lighting intended to enhance the decorative appearance of a building and/or landscaping shall comply with all of the following standards.

5-8(E)(2)(a) Decorative outdoor lighting shall cast all light downward (rather than upward) against the building surface or onto a landscape feature.

5-8(E)(2)(b) Decorative outdoor lighting shall not exceed 100 watts of incandescent luminance or the equivalent.

5-8(E)(2)(c) Decorative outdoor lighting shall be turned off between 11:00 P.M. and sunrise.

5-8(E)(2)(d) In DT and EC areas and in the Uptown Urban Center (UC), the following standards and exemptions apply:

1. Light fixtures for decorative outdoor lighting that are mounted on a building may be higher than allowed by Subsection 14-16-5-8(D)(8), but no higher than the top of the wall or parapet on which they are mounted.

2. Decorative outdoor lighting in these areas is exempt from Subsections 14-16-5-8(D)(1)(e) and 14-16-5-8(E)(2)(c).

5-8(E)(3) Parking Lots

Outdoor lighting for parking lots shall comply with all of the following standards.

5-8(E)(3)(a) Pedestrian walkways and bicycle paths in parking areas shall be lit with pedestrian-scale lighting.

5-8(E)(3)(b) Maintained average luminance values in paved parking areas shall provide an illumination of at least 1 foot candle, not to exceed 4 foot candles.