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**MAG Dark Sky Stakeholders Group (DSSG)  
Draft Meeting Notes**

**June 2, 2009**

Chris Luginbuhl led discussion on the draft MAG Pattern Lighting Code (PLC), beginning at section 4.3.

The meeting date and times were changed to second and fourth Wednesday of every month, 10 a.m. to noon in MAG Cholla room.

**Section 4.3 – Lamp Type Standards**

Glendale noted that they currently have about 19,000 street lights. He said all of the yellow Low Pressure Sodium (LPS) street lights have been replaced at the direction of the City Council. Glendale said that most large cities in Maricopa County use white High Pressure Sodium (HPS) street lights.

Buckeye commented that white light is better than yellow light from a safety perspective. Avondale noted that they use different color lights in different areas of their city. (e.g. downtown city center vs. residential).

Gilbert asked how glare is measured. It is not easy. One would need a light meter, someone trained to use the light meter and interpret its reading.

Chris Luginbuhl said that he envisioned the MAG PLC as a dynamic document, changing as needed.

There were no comments on Sections 4.4, 4.6, 5.1.

**Section 4.5 – Light Trespass Standard**

As a reference, below is text from Santa Cruz County Code (provided by Dan Brocius):  
“all light fixtures on the residential side of commercial property adjacent to residential property shall be fully shielded and shall be a maximum of 5 feet above grade at the property line and no higher than a line rising 25 degrees above the 5 feet until 100 feet from the property line. All outdoor lighting within one mounting height of residential areas shall have internal house-side shields.”

**Section 5.3 – Billboard Standards**

Stakeholders had concern with “not permitting” the use of LED billboards. Chris Luginbuhl informed that there is a large market push to use LED. At this time, LED is inefficient compared to HPS but LED has lower maintenance cost. Avondale noted that City Councils support the use of LED because it is considered “green” and being sustainable is important to City Councils.

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Section 5.3 is controversial. Glendale and Avondale said they are considering installing LED billboards. Chris Luginbuhl said there are many ways to get around a cities lighting code if someone wishes to put up an LED billboard and the city code does not permit it (e.g. use ADOT right of way).

Chris Luginbuhl said the total negative impact of sign lighting is small.

The DSSG discussed ways to write a PLC that would please most agencies.

Chris Luginbuhl mentioned that there could be 3 documents:

1. MAG PLC document (keep it simple)
2. Guidelines with examples and forms
3. Explanations and suggestions of how to implement.

Mesa mentioned that the MAG PLC could be written like a smart based code with different color text representing different topics.