

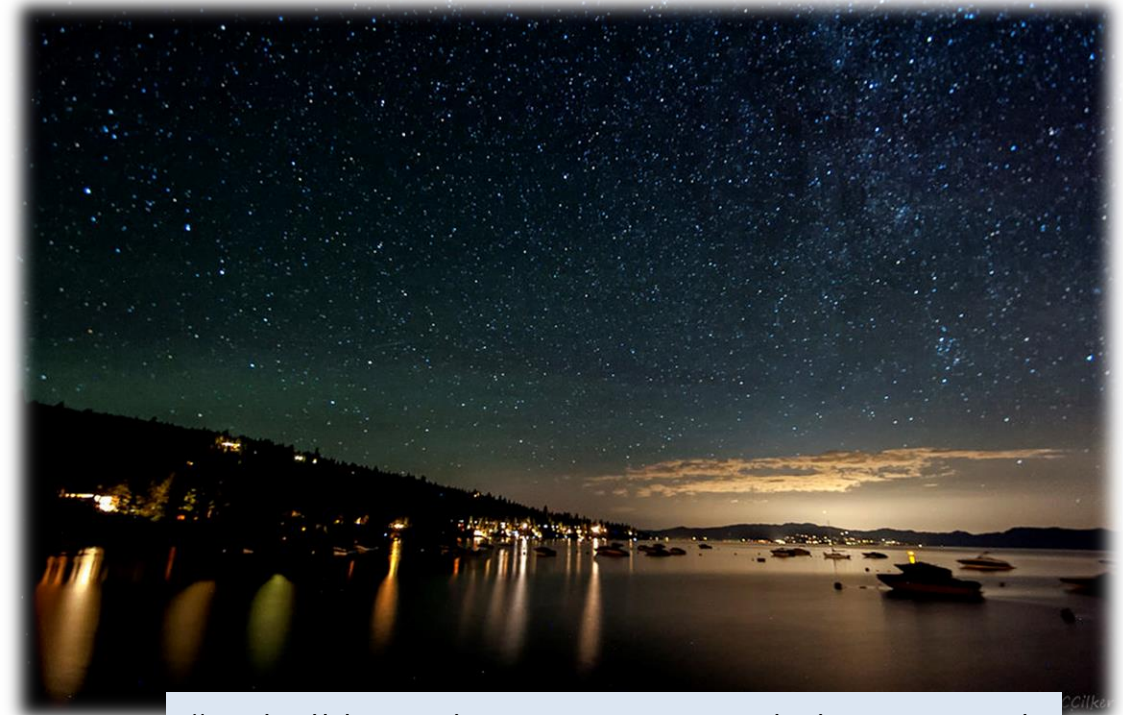
Chapter 36 Amendment: Outdoor Lighting – Flags

Advisory Planning Commission

July 10, 2019

Background

- Relationship to Thresholds
 - Scenic Resources
 - Recreation
- Exterior Lighting Standards
 - Section 36.8
- Prohibition on light fixtures projected above the horizontal
 - a.k.a. “up-lighting”
 - Goal: reduce light pollution and glare



“It shall be policy... to insure... lighting... and other design elements... be compatible with the natural, scenic, and recreational values of the region.” -- *Threshold SR-10*

Background

- United States Flag Code
 - Advisory rules for display, care
 - Customary to display until sunset
 - If displaying at night, proper illumination required
- Flag lighting options
 - Down-lighting
 - Up-lighting
- TRPA Code: use down-lighting



Down-Lighting



Up-Lighting

Source: united-states-flag.com

“It is the universal custom to display the flag only from sunrise to sunset... however, when a patriotic effect is desired, the flag may be displayed 24 hours a day if properly illuminated during the hours of darkness.”

– 4 USC 6

Background

- Happy Homestead Cemetery
 - Flagpole placed in 2015
- Proposed 24-hour display
 - US Flag Code: “Properly illuminated”
 - Concerns that down-lighting will not provide proper illumination
 - Seeking an exception to the prohibition on up-lighting



Proposal

- Provide for a limited exception to the prohibition on up-lighting
 - Location limited to the veterans’ section of a cemetery
- Apply a limitation on output
 - Consistent with “dark sky” regulations
 - 2,500 lumens recommended
 - 125 watt halogen equivalent

EXCEPTION CRITERIA	
Purpose	Lighting of the US flag
Circumstance	When down-lighting is infeasible
Location	Within the veterans’ section of an existing cemetery
Lighting Form	Spotlight(s) that confine the illumination to the flag
Intensity	Minimum necessary, but no more than 2,500 lumens

Recommendation

- Staff recommends that RPIC recommend the following:
 1. Governing Board approval of the findings ([Attachment B](#))
 2. Governing Board adoption of the ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances ([Attachment A](#))

