



CITY OF ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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ANN ARBOR PARTNERSHIP WITH DTE ADDS NEW LED STREETLIGHTS

ANN ARBOR, Mich., March, 3, 2011 — The City of Ann Arbor recently collaborated with DTE Energy on a neighborhood LED (“light-emitting diode”) street lighting project and is looking forward to future partnership opportunities. The project was funded in part by DTE Energy’s “Your Energy Savings” program and replaced 58 conventional streetlight fixtures with new energy-efficient LED fixtures. According to the City’s energy programs manager Andrew Brix, “This partnership is an excellent example of how new energy efficiency technologies can save municipalities money and benefit the environment by reducing carbon dioxide emissions and other pollution from electricity generation.”

The new LED fixtures installed in late 2010 will cut energy usage by nearly 50 percent and reduce the City’s annual carbon dioxide emissions by 25,000 lbs—equivalent to not driving a car once around the Earth’s equator. Additionally, the lower streetlight bill from DTE Energy for the new LED lights will save the City \$5,600 annually, repaying the City’s investment in four years. LED streetlights are expected to last up to ten years without maintenance. The project area—bounded by Hill St., Packard St., S. Forest Ave., and Wells St.—includes mostly student rental housing. Neighborhood representatives had previously approached the City to discuss ways to improve streetlight quality.

According to DTE’s Manager of Community Lighting, Ed Henderson, “DTE Energy is working to encourage its business and residential customers to save money and protect the environment by becoming more energy efficient.” He adds, “The company’s ‘Your Energy Savings’ program gives customers the tools they need to do that.” Henderson feels that it is important for DTE’s Community Lighting Group to be working with leaders in energy efficiency like Ann Arbor to find the best possible LED lighting solutions for their customers.

Ann Arbor is not alone among Michigan municipalities in assessing its streetlight system for opportunities to save energy and costs. Communities from Grand Rapids to Union Township have been exploring different street lighting options, but none has pursued LED streetlights as aggressively as Ann



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Arbor. With over 1,300 LED streetlights installed since 2006 and another 500 planned for this summer, Ann Arbor is clearly demonstrating the potential of this rapidly maturing technology. For more information on the City of Ann Arbor's energy programs, please visit www.a2gov.org/energy.

Ann Arbor has 114,000 residents, spans 27.7 square miles, and is frequently recognized as a foremost place to live, learn, work, thrive and visit (www.a2gov.org/news). To keep up with City of Ann Arbor information, subscribe for e-mail updates (www.a2gov.org/subscribe), follow us on Twitter (<http://twitter.com/a2gov>) or become a city fan on Facebook (www.facebook.com/thecityofannarbor). The city's mission statement reads: The city of Ann Arbor is committed to providing excellent municipal services that enhance the quality of life for all through the intelligent use of resources while valuing an open environment that fosters fair, sensitive and respectful treatment of all employees and the community we serve.

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