



*To organize and support
community partnerships to prevent
crime and the fear of crime*

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This document is available
at the Crime Prevention
Program website:

www.portlandoregon.gov/oni/cp



Office of Neighborhood Involvement & Portland Bureau of Transportation *Streetlight Partnership*

Office of Neighborhood Involvement Crime Prevention Program
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Adequate street lighting is a proven deterrent to criminal activity such as burglary, car prowling, and drug dealing. Light makes it easier to see the illegal activity and identify the people doing it. Criminals are less likely to commit crimes on a well-lit street because they feel a sense of risk that they will be caught.

Due to limited funding for new streetlights, in 2004 the Portland Bureau of Transportation formed a partnership with the Office of Neighborhood Involvement Crime Prevention Program to help locations afflicted by crime get the lighting they need to increase safety.

In order to qualify for the program, several criteria must be met:

1. The neighbors of the location must form a Neighborhood Watch. A Neighborhood Watch is formed with the assistance of the Crime Prevention Coordinator.
2. The area immediately around the location of the desired streetlight must have a higher incidence of crime, as determined by an examination of police bureau crime statistics for the location.
3. A Crime Prevention Coordinator must determine when visiting the site at night that the lack of a light is contributing to the crime problem.
4. A Bureau of Transportation engineer must determine that the street does not meet minimum lighting standards and that it is physically possible to place a streetlight at the desired location.
5. The neighbors of the location must raise \$1200 to pay for the streetlight.

Once these criteria have all been met, the streetlight is installed and the Bureau of Transportation pays the ongoing energy and maintenance costs.

If you have a crime problem in a specific part of your neighborhood, and you think inadequate light is contributing to the problem, please call 503-823-4000 and ask for the name and number of the Crime Prevention Coordinator for your neighborhood. He or she will guide you through the process and determine when the criteria have been met.