



# NEWS RELEASE

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **City of Menifee Receives Rebate of More Than \$500,000 Thanks to Regional Streetlight Program**

**Menifee, CA**—Menifee is saving energy and saving money—all while shining brighter—thanks to a regional streetlight program partnership. The joint effort by the Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG), the City of Menifee, and Southern California Edison (SCE) led to approximately 6,500 streetlights within Menifee being purchased and retrofitted to LED technology between March and June 2020.

The initial concept for the regional streetlight program began in 2014 when WRCOG initiated a regional approach to helping jurisdictions purchase their streetlights from SCE. The coordinated effort involved 11 cities/community service districts and 50,000 streetlights. One of the most beneficial aspects of the program was that once purchased, streetlight lamps would be retrofitted to light-emitting diode (LED) technology to provide more economical operations. This means lower maintenance costs and reduced energy use, while providing much better visibility.

Once the program was completed, WRCOG submitted rebate information to SCE, securing rebates for the LED conversion. Of the 11 jurisdictions that participated in the program, the City of Menifee received the second largest rebate at \$534,421. Beyond the LED rebate, the City expects to see estimated 70+% annual reduction in annual utility bill costs and a 62% reduction (1,908,574 kWh) in annual energy usage. This is enough energy savings to provide electricity to 228 homes each year!

The LED streetlight retrofit project aligns with the City of Menifee's Safe & Attractive Community Strategic Visioning Plan foundational goal, where the vision is to provide a full range of services that meet the highest professional and accredited standards of public safety by protecting life, maintaining order, and safeguarding property within our community. The significant electric bill reduction allows for better service to the Menifee community at a lower cost and the more clear and effective lights create safer roadways and streets from a public safety perspective.

The City of Menifee appreciates the regional partnership that led to these multi-faceted benefits for the community. For more information about the City of Menifee's streetlight program, visit <https://www.cityofmenifee.us/605/2019-LED-Streetlight-Retrofit-Project> and for details about WRCOG's regional initiative, visit their website at <https://wrcog.us/167/Streetlights>.

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**ABOUT MENIFEE:** *Situated in the heart of southern Riverside County along Interstate 215, Menifee is a vibrant, new city of more than 100,000 residents who enjoy a pleasant year-round climate, abundant recreational offerings, reasonably priced housing, and convenient proximity to some of Southern California's premiere attractions and employment centers. Within its 50 square miles, Menifee's business, retail, and entertainment outlets are starting to shape the community's character and this growing economic base is also contributing favorably to the city's strong financial position. Menifee's growing family-oriented population values the city's ongoing commitment to public safety, community events, and smart growth for the future. All of these elements are working together to support the city's strategic vision to make Menifee one of the state's most promising new cities.*