

## DC Ward 5 Transforms with Smart Street Lighting Technology

By D’Nyah Jefferson - Philmore

In the heart of Washington, D.C.'s Ward 5, a hidden revolution is underway, guaranteeing safer, more sustainable, and environmentally friendly neighborhoods. The District of Columbia's Smart Street Lighting Project has reached Ward 5, welcoming a wave of modernization and innovation.

Since May 2022, the DC Smart Street Lighting Project has been working to modernize the city's streetlights by upgrading them to energy-efficient LED technology and including remote monitoring and control capabilities. Ward 5 is now getting a close look at the results of this ambitious undertaking.

With an emphasis on safety and sustainability, installing LED streetlights represents a significant step forward for Ward 5 and the District as a whole. The benefits are numerous, beginning with increased safety for pedestrians, bikers, and drivers. With their remote monitoring and control capabilities, these smart streetlights promise to improve visibility and minimize the danger of accidents, especially at night.

Furthermore, Ward 5 residents should expect less light pollution since the directional nature of LED lighting directs light where it most needed: into roadways, sidewalks, and trails (DC Smart Street Lighting Project, 2022). This not only maintains the splendor of the night sky but also reduces disruptions in residential areas.

Beyond safety and aesthetics, the Smart Street Lighting Project has important environmental consequences. Ward 5 plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 38,000 tons per year by halving energy usage for lighting (DC Smart Street Lighting Project, 2022). In a world coping with the realities of climate change, efforts like these demonstrate the District's dedication to sustainability and environmental care.

The renovation of Ward 5's streetlights is a long-term project that requires thorough planning. The conversion work is being done in a systematic manner, with each stage meticulously planned to guarantee maximum efficiency and the least interruption to residents. Beginning in the second quarter of 2023, the conversion work has proceeded steadily across the wards.

Within Ward 5, the conversion work is further subdivided, ensuring that each area receives the attention it deserves. Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (ANCs) are at the forefront of this transformation, with conversion work split into sequential bundles, each completed within a swift 14 days.

As the Smart Street Lighting Project continues to unfold in Ward 5, it serves as a beacon of progress and innovation for the entire District of Columbia. With its emphasis on safety, sustainability, and efficiency, this initiative heralds a brighter, greener future for all who call Ward 5 home.

DC Smart Street Lighting Project.