

Exterior Lighting

CITY COUNCIL

AUGUST 22, 2024



Palm Desert Municipal Code

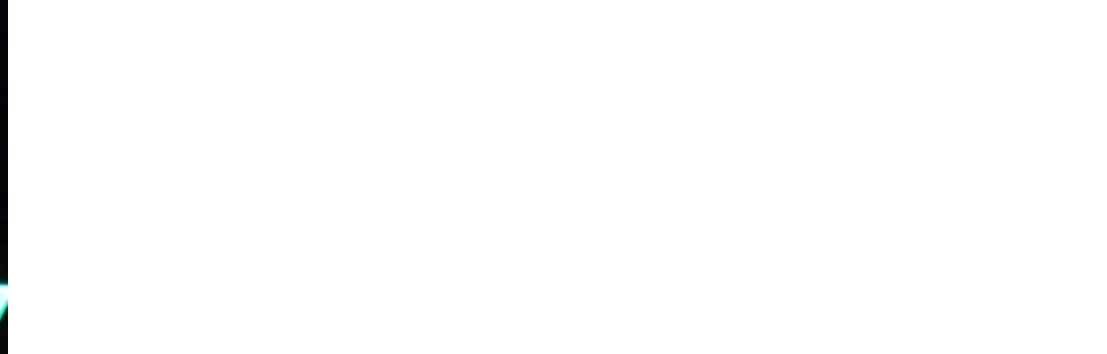
Chapter 24.16 Outdoor Lighting provides definition for decorative lighting, but no guidance on standards or process:

Decorative Lighting. Lighting products used for decorative effects versus lighting performance. Examples of decorative lighting include, but are not limited to, fountain lighting, lighting fixtures (pole, post or bollard style) creating a visual effect with low lumen output, led commercial outdoor string lighting, building wall sconce and chandelier lighting with low lumen lamp sources.”

Architectural outdoor lighting requirements: Lighting used to highlight architectural features, landscape, building façades, fountains, etc., shall be manufactured for the intended uses and shall be adjusted and/or aimed during the night to insure light is focused on the designated object.



Section 25.68.020 has required ARC Design Review for tube lighting: *“No plan, elevation for buildings or structures, or **alterations** shall be approved and no permit shall be issued for any building, structure, sign, or other development [...] without review and approval by the ARC.”*





City comparison

Lighting Type	Rancho Mirage		Indian Wells		Palm Desert	
	Process	Permissibility	Process	Permissibility	Process	Permissibility
<i>Tube Lighting</i>	Staff Review	Discouraged	Prohibited	N/A	ARC Review	?
<i>Window Lighting</i>	Staff Review	Discouraged	N/A	Discouraged	Unclear	?
<i>String Lights</i>	Staff Review	Allowed	Planning Review	Allowed	No Permit	?