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**City of Duluth - Communications Office**

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**DATE: 8/3/2016**

**SUBJECT: Duluth Lakewalk Trail to Get New Energy Efficient Lighting**

**BY: Pakou Ly, Communications Office**

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## **Duluth Lakewalk Trail to Get New Energy Efficient Lighting**

[Duluth, MN] – Visitors to the Lakewalk Trail in Canal Park will soon experience improved lighting and better enjoyment of the lakeshore. The City plans to replace light fixtures along the Lakewalk Trail between the Aerial Lift Bridge and the Rose Garden with new energy efficient lights that will help maintain connected and enjoyable public spaces while also providing savings to the City in the long run.

Earlier this year, Mayor Emily Larson announced the investment of \$500,000 towards energy investments that pay itself back over a period of 6-10 years. Mayor Larson and City staff estimated an annual savings of \$100,000 that includes rebates from MN Power and Comfort Systems. The energy conservation savings would be placed in a dedicated energy fund to help implement components of the City's energy plan.

The light project will entail removing every other fixture along the Lakewalk for a total of about 5-6 lights per section of the trail. The project will commence early next week. Once the fixtures are removed, it takes about one week to replace them with a new LED system before reinstallation. The project should be completed by the end of summer. The public may experience some reduced lighting in the project areas but existing light posts should provide sufficient lighting. Some light fixtures were previously replaced with LED fixtures but this additional investment will upgrade all of the lights along the Lakewalk between the Aerial Lift Bridge and Rose Garden.

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