

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## LED lighting slashes costs and carbon emissions

Marion is set to become the first council in South Australia to transition to LED street lighting, slashing its energy bills and carbon emissions.

In a landmark decision on Tuesday night council voted to invest more than \$3 million in replacing all 8525 of its street lights with modern LED lighting over the next three years.

The move will cut energy use by more than 75 per cent, saving \$500,000 and reducing carbon emissions by more than 1600 tonnes each year.

Mayor Kris Hanna said shifting to LED lighting showed Marion was putting the community first.

"Transitioning to LED lighting will save ratepayers money, help protect the environment and make our city safer," Mr Hanna said.

"This decision underlines Marion's reputation as an innovative council that is prepared to take the lead in embracing new technology.

"Replacing old and inefficient street lighting will provide both short and long term benefit to our residents.

"Energy prices are scheduled to rise again next year, so it is important to find new ways of minimising costs."

In addition to reducing costs and the impact on the environment, LED technology minimises glare and improves visibility.

Council's estimated return on the \$3.1 million investment is less than six years.

Planning for the move to LED lighting is scheduled to start early next year.

Council will also seek grant funding for the project through the Federal Government's Emissions Reduction Fund.

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