



### **What are we talking about?**

Across Mount Gretna, there are 63 Met-Ed–owned streetlights that provide roadway lighting throughout the Borough, including along Route 117. These are utility-standard fixtures owned and maintained by Met-Ed and are distinct from locally owned decorative streetlights with ruffled shades.

### **What is happening?**

FirstEnergy—the parent utility company that operates regional electric utilities including Met-Ed—is implementing a statewide LED Streetlight Conversion Program. In Mount Gretna, this program applies to the Borough’s 63 Met-Ed–owned streetlights.

Under this program, Met-Ed will replace existing, company-owned, non-LED cobra-head fixtures with LED fixtures **at no cost to the Borough**. Existing poles and mast arms are expected to remain in place; only the lighting fixture itself will be replaced.

This conversion follows updated guidance and rate approvals from the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) and applies uniformly across Met-Ed’s service territory.

### **Why is this conversion required?**

This conversion is mandatory and is being driven by Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) tariff changes, not by a discretionary Borough initiative.

- Traditional streetlight fixtures (such as high-pressure sodium and mercury vapor) are no longer manufactured.
- Replacement parts are increasingly unavailable.
- Utilities statewide are transitioning to LED technology for reliability, efficiency, and long-term maintenance.

Approximately 85,000 Met-Ed streetlights statewide are included in this program.

### **When will the conversion occur?**

- Conversions began in Fall 2025
- Deployment will continue through 2029
- Individual municipalities receive conversion schedules as part of utility coordination

Mount Gretna’s Met-Ed streetlights have not yet been assigned a conversion schedule. While the Borough has flexibility to coordinate timing with Met-Ed once program options and community considerations are fully understood, conversion will occur within the utility’s statewide timeframe.

### **Which lights are included in Mount Gretna?**

- The 63 Met-Ed–owned, utility-standard streetlights are included in the conversion program.
- Locally owned decorative streetlights (including Borough-built fixtures with ruffled shades) are not part of this utility program.

***Mount Gretna Borough** provides municipal services including roadway maintenance, stormwater management, public safety coordination, and other services that support the community.*



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### How are decisions made?

- Under Pennsylvania utility rules, the Borough of Mount Gretna is the customer of record for Met-Ed streetlight service.
- The Borough coordinates directly with Met-Ed regarding the utility's streetlight conversion program.
- The Borough evaluates program options and communicates technical recommendations to the utility.

While the fixture style (cobra-head) is largely constrained by existing infrastructure, the Borough does have meaningful input into:

- Brightness (lumen output)
- Color temperature (a warmer 3000K option is expected to be available in Pennsylvania later in 2026)

If Met-Ed streetlights are located on land owned by the Pennsylvania Chautauqua, the Borough provides notice and an opportunity for input on Borough recommendations. Such input is advisory in nature and limited to options available under utility requirements.

### Environmental and community considerations

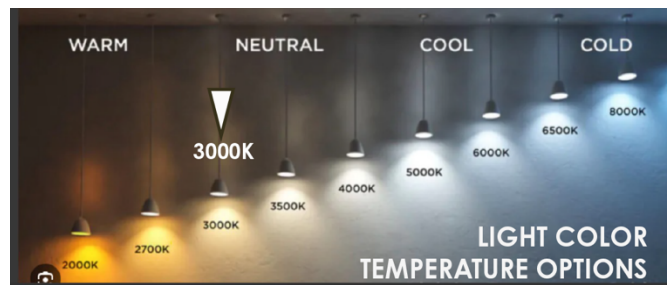
Color temperature (warmth) is separate from brightness. The Borough's interest in warmer lighting does not imply reduced illumination, but rather achieving appropriate lighting levels using a spectrum better suited to Mount Gretna's residential and wildlife environment. LED fixtures provide more focused, downward-directed light, which can reduce spill and light pollution compared to older fixtures.

Where feasible and within Met-Ed utility guidelines, the Borough considers:

- Safety
- Lighting appropriate to Mount Gretna's character
- Environmental and wildlife impacts
- Energy efficiency



*Cobra-head style light fixture*



### What happens next?

Because the conversion is mandatory, the Borough's role is to work within the utility program to recommend configurations that achieve the best possible outcome based on available options and local conditions.

This coordination effort does not preclude future improvements beyond the utility conversion. Any enhancements outside the scope of the Met-Ed program would be separate from the conversion effort and would be undertaken at the expense of the Borough or the Pennsylvania Chautauqua, depending on location and ownership.

*This bulletin is provided for general information only and does not establish Borough policy or authorize specific streetlight changes. Additional information will be shared when available from Met-Ed.*