CHAPTER 2. LIGHT POLLUTION

SEC. 51.201. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this chapter is to minimize light pollution to allow citizens of the County to view and enjoy the night environment, allow communities within the unincorporated areas of the County to become recognized by the International Dark-Sky Association as Dark-Sky Communities, and protect the Palomar and Mount Laguna observatories from the detrimental effect that light pollution has on astronomical research. This chapter establishes three geographic lighting zones, each with different light pollution protection standards.

(Added by Ord. No. 9974 (N.S.), effective 4-3-09)

SEC. 51.202. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR OUTDOOR LIGHTING FIXTURES.

a) All artificial outdoor luminaires installed or relocated, reinstalled after January 1, 1985, substantially altered, or located on a structure that requires a building permit shall comply with this chapter.

b) All artificial outdoor luminaires lighting within Zone C shall comply with the County Building and Electrical Codes and requirements of this chapter within 10 years of the Zoning Ordinance date on which it is adopted. Until such compliance, the requirements of the prior Zone A or Zone B shall remain in full force and effect.

(Added by Ord. No. 9974 (N.S.), effective 4-3-09)

c) This ordinance shall not supersede the requirements of any state or federal law.

d) Properties that fall within more than one outdoor lighting zone shall be subject to the requirements of the more restrictive zone.

SEC. 51.203. DEFINITIONS.

The following definitions shall apply to this chapter:

(a) "Outdoor luminaire" means an outdoor illuminating device, outdoor fixture, lamp and other similar device, whether permanently installed or portable, that produces artificial light.

(b) "Class I lighting" means outdoor lighting for an outdoor sales or eating area, vehicle fueling area, assembly or repair area, billboard or other sign, recreational facility or other similar application, where color rendition is important for commercial or safety purposes.
(c) "Class II lighting" means outdoor lighting for commercial, industrial and residential walkways, roadways and parking lots, equipment yards, outdoor security and residential entrance lighting.

(d) "Class III lighting" means outdoor lighting used for decorative effects such as architectural illumination, flag and monument lighting and landscape lighting.

a) “Adaptive control” means devices intended to actively regulate the switching, duration, and/or intensity of the light emitted by lighting systems. Adaptive controls include but are not limited to timers, dimmers, and motion sensors.

b) “Building official” means the Director of Planning and Development Services and any person appointed or hired by the Director to administer and enforce this chapter.

c) “Residential” “Candela” is the standard unit of luminous intensity for the amount of light in a given direction, and is used for measuring the brightness of a lamp, luminaire, or sign. This quantity of brightness is usually expressed as candelas per square meter, which are also known as “nits.”

d) “Class I lighting” means outdoor lighting for an outdoor sales or eating area, vehicle fueling area, assembly or repair area, or other similar application, where color rendition is important for commercial or safety purposes.

e) “Class II lighting” means outdoor lighting for commercial, industrial, and residential walkways, roadways and parking lots, equipment yards, outdoor security, and entrance lighting.

f) “Class III lighting” means outdoor lighting used for decorative effects such as architectural illumination, monument lighting, flags other than state or federal flags, and landscape lighting.

g) “Close of business” means the time when the business no longer allows entry to members of the public, or when the primary purpose of the business has concluded, whichever is later.

h) “Correlated color temperature (CCT)” means the color of light produced by a particular light source as compared to a reference device such as a blackbody radiator and measured on the kelvin (K) temperature scale. For example, incandescent light sources are usually 2,700K (also known as “soft white”), halogen and warm LED sources are usually 3,000K (also known as “warm white”), and some metal halide and cool LED are 4,000K–6,500K (also known as “cool white”).

i) “Entrance luminaire” means an exterior lighting fixture luminaire mounted on a building required by the California Electrical Code or California Building Code to illuminate an outdoor entrance or exit with grade level access.

(e) "Zone A" means the area within a 15 mile radius of the center of the Palomar Observatory and the area within a 15 mile radius of the center of Mount Laguna Observatory.

(f) "Zone B" means all areas within the unincorporated area of the County not included in Zone A.
(g) "Luminaire" means a complete lighting unit, including the lamp, the fixture and other parts.
(h) "Holiday decoration" means an outdoor luminaire that is used only for temporary decorative purposes, to celebrate a specific holiday.

j) "Fuel canopy" means a structure that is erected over fueling pumps and to which lighting is normally attached.

e)k) "Fully shielded" means a luminaire constructed in a manner such that all light emitted by the fixture, either directly from the lamplight source or a defusing element, or indirectly by reflection or refraction from any part of the luminaire, is projected below the horizontal plane, as determined by photometric test or certified by the manufacturer. Any structural part of the luminaire providing this shielding shall be permanently affixed so that no light is able to be emitted above the horizontal plane. Light is unable to be emitted above the horizontal plane and is focused to minimize light spill into the night sky or adjacent properties. Luminaires mounted under an opaque canopy such that no light is allowed above the horizontal plane in any direction shall be considered fully shielded for the purpose of this chapter.
l) “Holiday decoration” means an outdoor luminaire that is used only for temporary decorative purposes, to celebrate a specific holiday.

m) “Illuminance” means the quantity of light falling upon a surface, measured in footcandles (lumens/foot² or lm/ft²) or in lux (lumens/meter² or lm/m²). Illuminance can be measured vertically or horizontally, depending upon the orientation of the task surface.

n) “Illuminating Engineering Society (IES)” refers to the recognized authoritative body on the science and application of lighting that publishes and promotes recommended practices for a variety of specific lighting applications.

o) “Initial lumen value” means the initial lumen output of a new light source or luminaire before it has undergone any depreciation due to material or environmental issues.

p) “Lamp” means the easily removeable/replaceable light source portion of a luminaire whereas “light engine” refers to an integrated system such as LED modules and drivers.

q) “Light emitting diode” (LED) means an electrical semiconductor device that produces optical radiation when proper voltage and current are applied. Most LEDs in non-theatrical luminaires utilize a blue or violet LED chip that is covered by a clear protective bubble. Different phosphor coatings are applied to the interior of the bubble, and result in the wide range of different colors of “white” light (2,700K–6,500K) available with most luminaires.

r) “Lighting assembly” means a single luminaire or group of luminaires mounted in a single location.

s) “Low pressure sodium (LPS)” means a discharge lamp in which light is produced by radiation from sodium vapor operating at a relatively low partial pressure of 0.1 to 0.5 pascals. LPS lamps are generally very large, produce a monochromatic amber-colored light that has a CCT of ~1,800K, and are the discharge light source preferred by astronomers.

t) “Lumens” is the unit of luminous flux used for rating the output of non-directional light sources and luminaires (whereas “candela” is used with directional light sources and luminaires), and is used in luminance and illuminance calculations.

u) “Luminaire” means a complete lighting unit, including a light source, fixture housing, optical components, and electric or gas components, etc., that is used to produce visible light.

d) “Luminous tube lighting” means gas-filled glass tubing which, when subjected to high voltage, becomes luminescent in a color characteristic of the particular gas used, e.g., neon, argon, etc, or cold-cathode.

w) “On.” “Maintained lumens or maintained illuminance level” means the mean or maintained lumen output or illuminance level after depreciation due to material and environmental issues. For the purpose of this chapter, maintained values shall only be used for recreation, sport court, and athletic field illuminance calculations.
x) “Narrow spectrum amber LED” means a type of LED that appears amber in color, as it produces its peak spectral intensity within a narrow range of approximately 589 to 595 nanometers. Narrow spectrum amber LEDs are different from other amber LEDs (which are generally used for sensitive ecological applications), and are considered to be a viable alternative to LPS as they produce approximately the same reduced impact upon the night sky.

y) “Nit” means a metric for luminance equal to one candela per square meter.

z) “Off-premises advertising sign” means any sign that is not defined herein as an on-premises sign.

aa) “On-premises sign” means a sign located on the premises of a facility that is open to the public, that and which advertises the name of the facility, the product or service offered by the facility, offers, the facility's hours of operation, way-finding information, and/or or some other fact related to the facility.

(Added by Ord. No. 9974 (N.S.), effective 4-3-09; amended by Ord. No. 10224 (N.S.), effective 10-25-12)

bb) “Outdoor luminaire” means a luminaire (as defined by this ordinance) that is installed outdoors, whether permanent or portable.

c) “Outdoor recreation, sport court, and athletic field lighting” means lighting designed and installed specifically to illuminate large outdoor areas or sports fields and courts that often require high-intensity, high color-rendering illumination, and are used for practice and competitive events.

dd) “Spill light/light trespass” means the unwanted, wasted illumination produced by a lighting system that enters the night sky or crosses a nearby property line. Spill light is calculated and measured as vertical illuminance facing into the site and at a height of 5 feet above grade.

ee) “Zone A” means the area within a 15-mile radius of the center of Palomar Observatory and the area within a 15-mile radius of the center of Mount Laguna Observatory.

ff) “Zone B” means all areas within the unincorporated area of the County not included in Zone A or Zone C.

gg) “Zone C” means any Community Planning Area that has been approved as a County Dark-Sky Community by the Board of Supervisors. Zone C is limited to the boundaries of:

1) Julian Community Planning Area.

2) Borrego Springs Community Planning Area.
SEC. 51.204. REQUIREMENTS FOR **LAMP SOURCE AND SHIELDING/LIGHTING IN ZONE A.**

The requirements for lamp source and shielding of light emissions for outdoor luminaires Allowed lighting in Zone A shall be as provided in meet the following table standards:

**LAMP TYPE AND SHIELDING REQUIREMENTS PER FIXTURE CLASS I COLOR RENDITION IMPORTANT**

**a) Shielding and Lamp Requirements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>LAMP TYPE</strong></th>
<th><strong>Class I – Color Rendition Important</strong></th>
<th><strong>ZONE A (15 Mi.) Class II – Safety and Security</strong></th>
<th><strong>ZONE II Class III – Decorative and Aesthetic</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Low Pressure Sodium</strong></td>
<td><strong>Fully Shielded Luminaires:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Fully Shielded Luminaires:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Fully Shielded Luminaires:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Low pressure sodium or narrow spectrum amber LED or another light source with the same limited spectrum (any intensity)</td>
<td>• Low pressure sodium or narrow spectrum amber LED or another light source with the same limited spectrum (any intensity)</td>
<td>• Low pressure sodium or narrow spectrum amber LED or another light source with the same limited spectrum (any intensity)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Luminaires of any type (≤ 4,050 lumens)</td>
<td>• Luminaires of any type activated by a motion sensor (≤ 4,050 lumens)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Unshielded Luminaires:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Unshielded Luminaires:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Unshielded Luminaires:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Unshielded Luminaires:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Prohibited Others above 4050 Lumens</td>
<td>• Luminaires activated by motion sensors (≤ 2,000 lumens)</td>
<td>• Prohibited Fully Shielded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Others 4050 Lumens &amp; Below All lumens shall be based upon the initial lumen value of the light source.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**b) Hours of Operation**

All Class I and Class III lighting shall be turned off between 11:00 p.m. and sunrise, except:

1) On-premises signs may be illuminated while the facility is open to the public; and

2) Off-premises signs may remain lighted until midnight; and

3) Outdoor illumination of a sales area, commercial area, assembly area, repair area, or industrial area is allowed when the area is in use and the use is not prohibited by any permit issued by the County or by any law or regulation; and

4) Recreation, sport court, and athletic field lighting, pursuant to the conditions of SEC. 51.210. of this chapter.

**c) Signage Requirements**

1) Lighting for on-premises signs shall be shielded where feasible and focused to minimize light spill into the night sky or onto adjacent properties.

2) All lighting for off-premises signs shall be aimed downwards and fully shielded.

**SEC. 51.205. CLASS II-PARKING LOTS, SECURITY, ETC.**
REQUIREMENTS FOR LIGHTING IN ZONE B.

Allowed lighting in Zone B shall meet the following standards:

a) Shielding and Lamp Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LAMP TYPE</th>
<th>Class I – Color Rendition Important</th>
<th>ZONE A (15 Mi.) Class II – Safety and Security</th>
<th>ZONE B Class III – Decorative and Aesthetic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Low Pressure Sodium Fully Shielded Luminaires:</td>
<td></td>
<td>Fully Shielded Luminaires:</td>
<td>Fully Shielded Luminaires:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Luminaires of any type or intensity</td>
<td>• Low pressure sodium or narrow spectrum amber LED or another light source with the same limited spectrum (any intensity)</td>
<td>• Low pressure sodium or narrow spectrum amber LED or another light source with the same limited spectrum (any intensity)</td>
<td>• Low pressure sodium or narrow spectrum amber LED or another light source with the same limited spectrum (any intensity)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unshielded Luminaires:</td>
<td>Unshielded Luminaires:</td>
<td>Unshielded Luminaires:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Prohibited Others above 4050 Lumens</td>
<td>• Luminaires activated by motion sensors (≤2,000 lumens)</td>
<td>• Luminaires (≤2,000 lumens) Prohibited, except fully shielded HPS is allowed for private roadways</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(a) Fully Shielded Fixture with motion sensor, or (b) Unshielded Luminaire, 2000 lumens maximum with motion sensor or (c) Residential Entrance Light, 2000 lumens maximum. All lumens shall be based upon the initial lumen value of the light source.

b) Hours of Operation

All Class I and Class III lighting shall be turned off between 11:00 p.m. and sunrise, except:

1) On-premises signs may be illuminated while the facility is open to the public; and
2) Off-premises signs may remain lighted until midnight; and
3) Outdoor illumination of a sales area, commercial area, assembly area, repair area, or industrial area is allowed when the area is in use and the use is not prohibited by any permit issued by the County or by any law or regulation; and
4) Recreation, sports court, and athletic field lighting, pursuant to the conditions of SEC. 51.210.

c) Signage Requirements

1) Lighting for on-premises signs shall be shielded where feasible and focused to minimize light spill into the night sky or onto adjacent properties.
2) All lighting for off-premises signs shall be aimed downwards and fully shielded.

SEC. 51.206. CLASS III-DECORATIVE
REQUIREMENTS FOR LIGHTING IN ZONE C.

Allowed lighting in Zone C shall meet the following standards:

a) Shielding, Lumen, and Color Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LAMP TYPE</th>
<th>ZONE A (15 MI)</th>
<th>ZONE B</th>
<th>ZONE C – Class III</th>
<th>ZONE D – Class II – Safety and Security</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Low Pressure Sodium Shielding</td>
<td>Fully Shielded All luminaires shall be fully shielded</td>
<td>Fully Shielded All luminaires &gt;1,000 lumens shall be fully shielded</td>
<td>All luminaires &gt;1,000 lumens shall be fully shielded</td>
<td>Full shielding is not required for luminaires ≤1,000 lumens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others above 4050 Lumens Maximum quantity of light per site1 (50,000 lumens per gross acre)2</td>
<td>Prohibited Lighting shall not exceed 50% of the lumens per acre limit or of the 5,000 minimum lumen allowance, whichever is greater3</td>
<td>Prohibited Non-fully shielded lighting shall not exceed 10% of the total allowed lumens or of the 5,000 minimum lumen allowance, whichever is greater</td>
<td>Lighting shall not exceed 20% of the lumens per acre limit or of the 5,000 minimum lumen allowance, whichever is greater</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others 4050 Lumens &amp; Below Color</td>
<td>Prohibited CCT ≤3,000K</td>
<td>Prohibited except if less than 2000 lumens per fixture CCT ≤3,000K</td>
<td>CCT ≤3,000K</td>
<td>Low pressure sodium or narrow spectrum amber LED or another light source with the same limited spectrum</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. A site may include one or more lots, as determined by the building official.
2. Minimum lumen allowance: All sites shall be allowed a minimum of 5,000 lumens regardless of the size of the property.
3. Fuel canopies may be exempted from the “Maximum quantity of light per site” limitation for Class I lighting provided that the requirements specified in SEC. 51.211 are met.
4. All luminaires shall be based upon the initial lumen value of the light source.

b) Hours of Operation

All Class I and Class III lighting shall be extinguished two hours after sunset or within 30 minutes after the close of business, whichever is later, until one hour before sunrise, except:

A) On-premises signs shall be extinguished one hour after sunset until one hour before sunrise, unless the business is operating; and

B) Off-premises signs shall be extinguished one hour after sunset until one hour before sunrise; and
C) Outdoor illumination of a sales area, commercial area, assembly area, repair area, or industrial area is allowed when the area is in use and the use is not prohibited by any permit issued by the County or by any law or regulation; and

D) Recreation, sports court, and athletic field lighting, pursuant to the conditions of SEC. 51.210.

c) Signage Requirements

All on-premises signs and off-premises signs shall comply with all of the following provisions:

1) All signs shall have a luminance of less than or equal to 100 candelas per square meter (nits) between sunset and sunrise. For electronic signs, the luminance shall be measured under the conditions of a full-white display; and

2) The luminous/illuminated surface area of an individual sign shall not exceed 200 square feet.

d) Publicly Owned Lighting

1) New installations of outdoor lighting on public properties and rights-of-way shall only be installed upon determination by the director of the responsible department that the lighting is necessary for the safety and welfare of the general public, and that the result can only be achieved through the provision of outdoor lighting and not through other passive means, such as reflectorized roadway paint or markers.

2) All new public lighting shall be regulated with adaptive controls such that the lighting of areas is restricted to times, places, or amounts required for safe occupancy or use.

Sec. 51.207. Lighting for On-Premises Advertising Displays, as defined under Section 6490 of the Business and Professions Code, shall be shielded where feasible and focused to minimize spill light into the night sky or adjacent properties.
(Added by Ord. No. 9974 (N.S.), effective 4-3-09)

SEC. SUBMISSION OF PLANS AND EVIDENCE OF COMPLIANCE.
An applicant for any permit required by the County for work involving an outdoor luminaire, unless the work is exempt as provided in this chapter, shall submit evidence with the permit application that the proposed work will comply with this chapter. The submission shall contain the following:

a) A map or other drawing showing the location of the property where any outdoor luminaire will be installed.

b) Plans indicating the location on the property where each type of outdoor luminaire will be installed, indicating the type of fixture.

c) The specifications for each outdoor luminaire to be installed, including but not limited to manufacturer's catalog cuts, manufacturer specification sheets, photometric studies, and drawings.

d) In order to be considered complete, the plans and descriptions shall enable the plans examiner to readily determine whether the work will comply with the requirements of this chapter. If the plans examiner cannot determine from the applicant's submission whether the proposed work complies with this chapter, the examiner may reject the application or allow the applicant to submit additional information.

Sec. 51.208. (Added by Ord. No. 9974 (N.S.), effective 4-3-09)

EQUIPMENT SUBSTITUTIONS OR ALTERATIONS.

The outdoor lighting equipment installed at a project site (luminaires, lamps, poles, finishes, controls, etc.) and the locations thereof shall not be substituted or altered in any way from the approved plans (except for the use of prior-approved alternate manufacturers with detailed specifications already listed in the Luminaire & Lighting Control Device Schedule of the approved plans) without first submitting the changes to the County (including updated photometric studies where appropriate) and then receiving written approval. Failure to comply with this requirement can result in penalty action from the County, including administrative citations, civil penalties, and a decline to issue the final Certificate of Occupancy or final Certificate of Completion until the project is brought into conformance with the approved plans, to the satisfaction of County staff.

SEC. 51.209. SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS.

SEC. 51.206. HOURS OF OPERATION.

(a) All Class I lighting shall be off between 11:00 p.m. and sunrise, except as follows:

(1) An "on premises" advertising sign may be illuminated while a facility is open to the public.
(2) A billboard may remain lighted until midnight.
(3) Outdoor illumination of a sales area, commercial area, assembly area, repair area or industrial area is allowed when the area is in use and the use is not prohibited by any permit issued by the County or by any law or regulation.
County airports and County correctional institutions located in the unincorporated area of the County shall be subject to the following special requirements:

a) Outdoor lighting at a County airport in an area not regulated by state or federal law, such as a parking lot or outside building, shall be fully shielded and use low pressure sodium or narrow spectrum amber LED or another light source with the same limited spectrum.

b) Outdoor lighting at a County correctional institution in an area not regulated by state or federal law, such as a parking lot, shall be fully shielded and use low pressure sodium or narrow spectrum amber LED or another light source with the same limited spectrum.

SEC. 51.210. OUTDOOR RECREATION, SPORTS COURTS, OR ATHLETIC FIELD LIGHTING.

Outdoor recreation, sport courts, or athletic field lighting may be exempted from the shielding, CCT, and hours of operation requirements provided that the following conditions are met:

a) Facilities in Zone A and Zone B:

1) Lighting at an outdoor recreational facility may remain on to allow an organized recreational event in progress to be completed, provided the event and the facility are not violating the terms of any permit issued by the County or any law or regulation.

(4) The lighting is exempt from this section as provided in section 51.207 or a temporary exemption has been granted under section 51.209.

(b) Operation of a searchlight for advertising purposes is prohibited between 11:00 p.m. and sunrise.

(c) Class III lighting shall be off between 11:00 p.m. and sunrise.

(Added by Ord. No. 9974 (N.S.), effective 4-3-09)

b) Facilities in Zone C:

1) The maintained illuminance levels do not exceed the values of IES-recommended practice; and

2) The color temperature of the lighting is ≤5,000K; and

3) The luminaires shall utilize internal or external shielding in order to minimize uplight and off-site direct visibility of the light sources. A small amount of uplighting is permitted for those activities where the playing unit (ball, etc.) can exceed the height of the luminaires; and

4) Field lighting is provided exclusively for the illumination of the surface of play and viewing stands and not for other applications, and shall not exceed 50 percent of the full light output when the field is being utilized for other than practice and tournament play; and

5) Off-site impacts (spill light/light trespass) shall be limited to ≤2.0 vertical footcandles at any of the property lines (based upon maintained lumen values) unless approved otherwise by the building official. A photometric study documenting compliance of the horizontal on-site...
illuminance (field, court, etc.) and the perimeter vertical spill illuminance must be included with the plan submittal; and

6) Lights must be extinguished by 10:00 p.m. or one hour after the end of play, whichever is later; and

7) Title 24-compliant timing or central control devices must be installed to prevent the lighting from being left on later than one hour after the facility is occupied.

SEC. 51.211. FUEL CANOPIES.

All lighting attached to fuel canopies within Zone C shall meet the following additional requirements:

a) The maintained illuminance levels shall not exceed 120 percent of IES-recommended practice for low ambient light zones; and

b) Luminaires for new and rebuilt canopies are to be recessed or semi-recessed into the canopy and possess a flat lens that resides at ≤2.5 inches below the canopy ceiling. Replacement luminaires for existing canopies may be surface mounted as long as there is a flat lens and it resides higher than the bottom edge of the perimeter canopy structure. Neither external nor internal lighting of the perimeter structure is allowed unless it exists at the time this updated ordinance was adopted, and then still needs to be brought into compliance within 10 years from the date of adoption of this ordinance.

SEC. 51.212. EXEMPTIONS.

An outdoor luminaire in any of the following categories is exempt from the requirements of this chapter, except the requirements in section 51.202(b):

(a) The outdoor luminaire was legally installed prior to January 18, 1985 except that:
   (1) When an existing luminaire becomes inoperable any replacement of the luminaire shall comply with this chapter.
   (2) The exemption shall no longer apply when the property undergoes a change in use.

e)a) An outdoor luminaire producing light directly by the combustion of a fossil fuel such as a kerosene lantern or gas lamp.

(b) An outdoor luminaire on, in or in connection with any facility or property owned or operated by the government of the United States of America or the State of California.

f)b) A luminaire used for a holiday decoration, provided it is used for no more than 60 days in a 12– month period and is off between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and sunrise.
g) Lighting that illuminates a United States or California flag and the flagpole to which the flag is affixed. A luminaire or combination of luminaires with an output of more than 4050 lumens per flag, however, shall be fully shielded as necessary so that the light source is not visible from the property line. In Zone C, luminaires in excess of 4,050 lumens shall be affixed to the top of the flagpole and be aimed downward.

h) Outdoor lighting for a facility required by State or federal law to have outdoor lighting that does not comply with this chapter. A person seeking an exemption under this subsection shall request an exemption at that time the person submits the application for the permit required by the County Electrical Code. The applicant shall submit proof along with the application for the permit that demonstrates the applicant is entitled to an exemption under this subsection. *(Added by Ord. No. 9974 (N.S.), effective 4-3-09)*

e) Life-safety luminaires that only operate via battery or generator during a power failure.

**SEC. 51.208. SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS.**

County airports and County correctional institutions located in the unincorporated area of the County shall be subject to the following special requirements:

(a) Outdoor lighting at a County airport in an area not regulated by State or federal law, such as a parking lot or outside building, shall be low-pressure sodium.

l) Outdoor lighting at a County correctional institution in an area not regulated by State facility or federal law, such as a parking lot, shall be fully shielded activity for which there is no practicable alternative that complies with one or more of the specific requirements of this chapter.

**SEC. (Added by Ord. No. 9974 (N.S.), effective 4-3-09)**

**SEC. 51.209212. TEMPORARY EXEMPTIONS.**

a) A person may submit a written request to the building department for a temporary exemption from the requirements of this chapter. The request shall be submitted on a form provided by the building official. The fee for the temporary exemption shall be as provided in section 362.1 of the County Administrative Code.

b) A temporary exemption under this section shall only be granted if the applicant is able to establish that: (1) an exemption is necessary during a community event or some other event that benefits the public and the public benefit outweighs any harm that might result to the public or any private person, or (2) the exemption is necessary due to an emergency that is beyond the control of the applicant and no other reasonable alternative
exists. No temporary exemption shall be granted when the outdoor lighting for which a temporary exemption is requested has been installed in violation of this chapter.

c) The building official shall have ten days from the date the applicant submits a complete request for a temporary exemption to approve or disapprove the request. The building official shall notify the applicant of the decision in writing.

d) The temporary exemption shall be valid for no more than 30 consecutive days from the date the County approves the request. Upon request from the applicant, the County, upon receipt of evidence that a condition justifying the continuation of the exemption exists, may extend the exemption for up to an additional 30 consecutive days. The request for renewal shall be processed in the same manner as the original request. No exemption for an outdoor luminaire shall be granted for more than 60 days during any 12-month period.

(a) If the building official denies the request for a temporary exemption, the applicant may request that the chief of the Building Division review the denial. The applicant shall submit the request for review in writing within 15 days from the date of the denial. The fee for the review shall be the same as the fee for the request for a temporary exemption. The decision by the chief of the Building Division shall be final.

e) (Added by Ord. No. 9974 (N.S.), effective 4-3-09)