

## CHAPTER 3 - NEIGHBOURHOOD POLLUTION

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### 303.01 EXTERIOR LIGHT POLLUTION AND CONTROL



#### INTENT

To reduce the light trespass from building sites and to increase night sky access.

#### REQUIREMENT

For all new buildings, permanently installed exterior lighting must comply with the following requirements:

1. All exterior light fixtures on the building site, other than architectural accent lighting and Civil Aviation safety lighting, must be shielded, so that the full light emitted by the fixture, either directly or indirectly by reflection or by refraction from any part of the fixture, is projected below the horizontal plane passing through the lowest part of the fixture.
2. Architectural accent lighting must be aimed or shielded to prevent the lighting of the night sky. Wall washing lights must spill no more than 10% of the lighting, past the building façade.
3. Downward directed lighting must be used for lighting of signage.
4. All exterior lighting must be fitted with automatic controls, to ensure that lights do not operate during daylight hours.

#### SIGNIFICANCE

Light pollution (also known as photopollution or luminous pollution) is excessive, misdirected or intrusive use of artificial outdoor lighting. Light pollution creates several environmental problems that include disturbance for wildlife species to hunt or forage at night, disorientation for migratory birds during migration and disruption in circadian rhythms and melatonin production in humans. Excessive use of exterior lighting is also a waste of electricity.

While parts of Dubai are known to have a vibrant nightlife, with many iconic buildings illuminated, the use of exterior lighting needs to be controlled to reduce the impact from over lighting. This regulation aids to reduce light pollution and night sky glow and provide several benefits that include people to enjoy the view of night sky.

#### APPLICABILITY

This regulation is applicable to all building types. Refer to Table 101.07(1) in Section One - Administration for detailed applicability levels.