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CITIPower AND CITY OF YARRA TRIAL ENERGY EFFICIENT LIGHTING IN INNER MELBOURNE

CitiPower and The City of Yarra are trialing new energy efficient street lighting in North Fitzroy to give community members the chance to see how the lights perform and gather important learnings to help roll out new technologies on a broader scale.

Trial lighting was installed in Clausen, Brunswick, Birkenhead and Reid streets in North Fitzroy last week. The trial of 35 lights will include light emitting diodes (LED), compact fluorescents and linear fluorescents.

CitiPower Regional Asset Manager, Joe Mravljak, said the lights being trialed are up to 50 per cent more efficient to run and maintain than traditional street lighting models.

“CitiPower is pleased to be able to run this trial within the City of Yarra and enable our customers to experience and compare the quality of energy efficient lighting with traditional lighting fixtures,” Mr Mravljak said.

“The experience gained through the City of Yarra trial will enable us to fully assess the functionality and performance of the energy efficient lights and in consideration of a broader roll out of these lights throughout CitiPower’s network which supplies Melbourne’s CBD, central and inner suburbs.

“We understand that the community is committed to energy efficiency and we are keen to harness new technologies that support that goal without compromising the quality, security and reliability of public street lighting,” he said.

City of Yarra Mayor Amanda Stone said the trial will allow the Council and residents to view energy efficient street-lighting before 60 per cent of Council-controlled public lighting is changed over in the 2009/10 financial year.

“Public lighting has an important role to play in helping our residents feel safe in their neighbourhoods, but it can be done so much more efficiently, energy-wise,” Cr Stone said.

“The \$1.045 million upgrade will see a 10 per cent reduction in Council’s carbon emissions annually, which amounts to approximately 1500 tonnes of CO₂ each year, she said.

The upgrade to public lighting is part of the Council’s on-going maintenance program.

Residents are invited to provide feedback about the lighting trial to Mark Dornau, Manager, Environment Unit, on 9205 5720 or email mark.dornau@yarracity.vic.gov.au.

Media inquiries: CitiPower’s 24-hour media service on (03) 9683 4342.