

PLACEMAKING

The Lighting Design Principles that drive successful placemaking are:

- Human Comfort
- Wellness
- Legibility
- Context
- Spectacle
- Sustainability



Human Comfort

Lighting for Human Comfort measures includes:

Light Intensity. A sense of safety is felt when you can recognise people and see the environment around you. Provide light levels, measured in the vertical and horizontal plane, that enable sight.

Glare. An absence of direct glare in the eye allows the environment to be seen and therefore more quickly understood. Direct glare from lighting fittings masks views and creates discomfort.

Contrast. Variations in light intensity create surface contrast. Use variations in lighting levels increase visual acuity at places of hazard thus improve safety in the environment.

Wellness

Lighting for Wellness measures includes:

Nature. All life lives in sync with the passage of time. In the human body light is responsible for turning on and off the human body through the production of chemicals like Serotonin, Melatonin, Dopamine and Cortisol. The correct balance of light helps to maintain our natural human rhythms.

Time. Dynamic lighting systems reinforce the passage of time thus improving our connection with our natural rhythms. Automated, sensor control light can increase or reduce light intensity triggered by human movement or the passage of time.



Legibility

Lighting for Legibility measures includes:

Orientation. Variations in light intensity create visual contrasts which in turn provide a hierarchy in the night time environment. This allows us to plan our route, to see where we are heading.

Repetition. Simple elements repeated recede to form a visual background. Lighting hardware should form a visually recessive delivery system which allows the environment to be uncluttered and thus more easily 'read'.

Context

Lighting for Context measures includes:

View. The starry night sky is the defining natural asset of the night-time context. Shielding light sources so all light is directed below the horizontal plane will eliminate light pollution of the night sky.

Scale. The size of public space and the speed at which we move through it determines the appropriate level of scale.

Spectacle

Lighting for Spectacle measures includes:

Colour. Each wavelength of light, or colour, generates different emotional responses within us. Colour of light can be tuned to context. Colour of light can be used in the built environment for accent.

Change. Spectacle is created by change. Special events, seasons or time can all be marked nightly by changes in illumination.

Integration. Integration of lighting into buildings and landscape reduces the visual clutter to allow us to concentrate on the lighting effect.

Sustainability

Lighting for Sustainability measures includes:

Technology. LED provides the maximum amount of light for the minimum power usage. Integration of the latest lens technology allows light to be directed to where it is required.

Solar. The sun's energy is free and plentiful. Solar collectors integrated into the infrastructure will collect enough energy to run the lighting.

Control. Wireless sensors and dimming controls enable lights to interact with their environment. Light can be provided to suit occupation and movement.