

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Context

Vancouver is compactly built upon 129 km² of hilly topography, and set on a peninsula nestled between mountains, ocean and natural setting is complemented by densely packed towers and a continuous public waterfront.

The study area in Southeast False Creek is a waterfront, remediated brownfield site centrally-located southeast of downtown Vancouver. The area was slated for residential development in the early 1990s, and the central Village neighbourhood, including the observation site was largely completed by 2010.

Observations were conducted in Shipyard plaza and promenade. The study area was selected due to the variety of luminaires, ground surfaces, routes and access points within the field of observable area.

Lessons Learnt

Creating maximum value from urban lighting begins early in the development review process. Instituting detailed design objectives for urban lighting at the planning stage coupled with monitoring existing installations to better understand where improvements can be made, increases the likelihood of

difficult to observe, and therefore was determined by a measured of repeated, fluid use of lit spaces. For example, the bull rail luminaires create appropriate and well-directed light for the deck surfaces and as a result maintained the most frequent use.

Analysis of a case study site provides insight into the strengths and weaknesses of public lighting policy in Vancouver. Learning from Southeast False Creek, recommendations address urban lighting at a municipal level.

Recommendations

Monitor and evaluate existing lighting strategies.

Seek opportunities for additional illumination.

Explore innovative luminaire technologies from best practice case studies.

Investigate performance-based standards for streetlights.

Develop a lighting master plan.



Unlit Stanley Park seawall 2012 (Vancouver, BC)



Glare from Lost Lagoon plaza 2012 (Vancouver, BC)



Concept: Lake-front walk (Jyväskylä, FI)
Source: *Jyväskylä, 2009*



Concept: Above lit cycle path (Funen, DK)
Source: lighting.philips.com