



RESIDENTS' INVOLVEMENT IN IMPROVING STREET LIGHTING

SETTING UP A CONSULTATIVE PROCESS TO GIVE RESIDENTS THE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THE ISSUE OF REDUCING ENERGY CONSUMPTION LINKED TO PUBLIC STREET LIGHTING

In 2013, the Conseil Municipal de Troyes (municipal council) was asked to debate the question of a total switch-off of street lighting between 1:00 a.m and 5:00 a.m. in order to limit light pollution and to promote energy savings in this area.

A working group was set up to address this issue. The working group consisted of majority and opposition elected representatives, street lighting management departments as well as occasional interventions to inform decision-making: fire fighters, the police and a sociologist.

It was unanimously decided that a total switch-off would cause too many practical problems in an urban environment. It was therefore decided to make energy savings by piloting innovative technologies.

The Local Authority requested the support of a sociologist in the pilot phase so that residents could be consulted and supported in terms of this new approach.

INNOVATIONS

- In addition to furthering the development of LED bulbs, step-down transformers, and astronomic clocks, the city of Troyes piloted a public street lighting system triggered by motion detectors in one of the city's neighbourhoods. The neighbourhood is an old district located in a protected pedestrian zone. This neighbourhood comprises social housing, a church, a museum and an urban park.
- Via several public meetings, the residents were consulted on the motion detector pilot scheme in their neighbourhood. A sociologist provided support during the proceedings.

STAKEHOLDERS

- The city of Troyes
- Working group composed of elected representatives and technicians
- Syndicat Départemental d'Énergie de l'Aube (delegated manager for public street lighting)
- Residents
- Professionals working at night

IMPLEMENTATION

- The first step was to equip the lighting solution with motion detectors on six lights in a square adjacent to the neighbourhood.
- The residents were invited to take a night-time stroll through the Square in order to have a hands-on presentation of the new system. This technological solution was then extended to all the streets in the neighbourhood with the consent of the residents.

View of the
Vauluisant
neighbourhood



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RESULTS

- /// Qualitatively, the city of Troyes has benefited from having organised a specific consultation process as part of this innovative approach.
- /// Thanks to the significant impact of the public street lighting at night and the use of the space, the general public have also benefited from an improved living environment. The consultation highlighted anxiety-causing "black holes" due to the lack of adequate lighting.
- /// Quantitatively, the effort put in by the local authority in terms of the overall modernisation of the public street lighting throughout the entire community resulted in energy savings of 50% between 2010 and 2015.

COST OF THE INITIATIVE

- /// Sociological service: €5,500
- /// Cost of the equipment: the additional cost of fitting a motion detector to a street light is €350

