In an effort to better apprise our community of the regulations under which the ARC Committee makes its decisions with regard to lighting we present this overview of the Dark Sky regulations. Promulgated by DarkSky International and adopted by Bexar County Commissioners Court and Cibolo Canyons Resort Community, these regulations seek to reduce light pollution and preserve the night sky and nocturnal environment. The Cibolo Canyons design guidelines also require the use of Dark Sky lighting and specifically prohibits the use of up-lighting. Additionally, exterior lighting should be kept to a minimum, though still consistent with good security practices.

DarkSky International advises outdoor lighting adhere to the following five guidelines:

Responsible outdoor lighting is:

## 1. Useful

All light should have a clear purpose

Before installing or replacing a light, determine whether light is needed. Consider how the use of light will impact the area, including wildlife and the environment. Consider using reflective paints or self-luminous markers for signs, curbs, and steps to reduce the need for permanently installed outdoor lighting.

# 2. Targeted

Light should be directed only to where it's needed

Use shielding and careful aiming to target the direction of the light beam so that it points downward and does not spill beyond where it is needed.

# 3. Low level

Illumination should be no higher than necessary

Use the lowest light level required. Be mindful of surface conditions, as some surfaces may reflect more light into the night sky than was intended.

#### 4. Controlled

Light should be used only when it is useful

Use controls such as timers or motion detectors to ensure that light is available when it is needed, dimmed when possible, and turned off when not needed.

## 5. Warm-colored

Use warmer-color lights where possible

Limit the amount of shorter wavelength (blue-violet) light to the least amount needed. Light where you need it, when you need it, in the amount needed, and no more.

In accordance with the dark sky requirement of Cibolo Canyons, the ARC Committee will continue to approve lighting that follows the aforementioned guidelines. Additionally, in order to make it clearer what lighting will be approved we provide the following example of approved lighting fixtures taken from the Bexar County Commissioners Court court order updating the dark sky regulations for Bexar County and surrounding areas.

