

FinAnswer® Express Case Study

City of Union Gap



Pictured from the left: Bill Rathbone, development coordinator, City of Union Gap, and Dan Richards, ecoLuma.

At a glance

City of Union Gap
Washington

Projects:

Lighting upgrades at three city facilities

Lighting contractor:

ecoLuma
Yakima, Washington
509-225-7050

Annual energy savings:

\$4,410 (81,400 kwh/year)

Project cost:

\$18,830 before incentives
– 5,680 incentive payment

\$13,150 after incentives

Simple payback:

4.3 years before incentives
3.0 years after incentives

Other benefits:

- improved light quality
- improved working conditions
- lower maintenance cost
- community goodwill

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Union Gap saves on energy cost with high-efficiency lighting

Aging fixtures, inefficient lamps, escalating maintenance costs and tight budgets – officials and staff at the City of Union Gap, Washington, were looking for solutions to a variety of lighting issues at the city hall, public library and police department. After a bid process, the city selected ecoLuma, an award-winning, Yakima, Washington-based contractor whose main focus is upgrading industrial and commercial facility lighting to the most energy-efficient technology available.

Projects

The lighting projects at City of Union Gap were excellent candidates for Pacific Power's FinAnswer Express program. ecoLuma ran a complete photometric analysis on each project. The photometric breakdown allowed them to examine projected light levels and fixture spacing for optimum results.

In the city hall building, the lighting contractor retrofit existing fixtures, replacing critical components without installing new fixtures, which kept project costs low.

“We looked at the bottom line and the capital costs to the city. This was a very good deal at the right time for us.”

Bill Rathbone
Development Coordinator
City of Union Gap

continued

In the library, ecoLuma recommended a complete new lighting system be designed and installed because of existing low light levels and the poor quality of the existing fixtures. New fixtures were installed below the ceiling providing more light at reading level, reducing glare and giving the library a modern, more inviting atmosphere.

Failing fixtures, security and task requirements led to lighting improvements at the police department.

All three facilities were upgraded with electronic T8 lamps and high-efficiency electronic ballasts, replacing older T12 fluorescent lamps with magnetic ballasts. The police department required additional emergency lighting provisions be installed in case of power failure.



City of Union Gap		
Location	Replaced	With
City Hall, Library, Police Department	4- and 2-lamp T12 fluorescent lamps with magnetic ballasts	2-lamp premium T8 32-watt lamps ($\geq 3,100$ lumens) with reduced light output electronic ballasts

Benefits

In addition to saving energy and lowering operating costs, the FinAnswer Express projects at City of Union Gap improved light quality and reduced glare, which has increased worker and patron comfort. Maintenance costs have been reduced because new lighting products last longer.

By saving taxpayers' money, the city is building goodwill in the community, while also leading the way as a responsible energy consumer.

Savings

With the help of FinAnswer Express, high-efficiency lighting measures installed by ecoLuma are saving the City of Union Gap more than 80,000 kilowatt-hours (kwh) per year in energy use. In addition, the city is saving more than \$4,400 a year in energy costs. The incentives the city received through FinAnswer Express shaved more than a year off the projects' simple payback, on average.

Annual savings by project (estimated)

Location	kwh/yr	\$/yr savings
City Hall	26,400	\$1,500
Library	6,200	\$410
Police Department	48,800	\$2,500
Total	81,400	\$4,410

About FinAnswer[®] Express

Pacific Power has helped commercial and industrial customers save money and improve energy efficiency for more than a decade. In Washington, our FinAnswer Express program provides cash incentives and technical expertise to help customers upgrade to high-efficiency lighting, heating and cooling and more. Customers can choose a Pacific Power Energy Efficiency Alliance vendor or an independent energy consultant for technical assistance. In addition, our Energy FinAnswer[®] offers high-quality energy engineering services and cash incentives for more comprehensive energy efficiency projects.

Let us help you get started

- Visit pacificpower.net/wattsmart and inquire online.
- Call our energy services hotline toll free at **1-800-222-4335**.
- E-mail us at energy.expert@pacificcorp.com.

Because we have some requirements to qualify for an incentive, it's important to call us **before** you start your project.



Let's turn the answers on.