

TRAIL
LIGHTING**Location:** Odessa, Texas, USA**Client:** Odessa College**Products Used:** GreenWay™, 80 watt series with 20 watt LED**Installer:** Willis Electric Co., LP

Overview: Located in a progressive West Texas city of more than 90,000 people, Odessa College has maintained a strong community college spirit since 1946. Approximately 5,000 students are enrolled in university-parallel and occupational and technical credit courses, with over 11,000 individuals enrolling in one or more Adult Basic Education, Continuing Education, or Community Recreation courses.

“One thing we won’t miss about the old lights is writing out the check to the utility company each month; those savings can go towards the student services.”

– Bob Chastain, Director of Physical Plant of Odessa College, Texas

TRAIL
LIGHTING

Requirements: Odessa College's previous, old lighting systems failed to provide enough light to make people feel comfortable arriving and leaving the campus. The administration wanted students to feel safe and secure walking from parking areas to classes, and also wanted to encourage students to interact and study on campus.

The old lighting and wiring of the previous systems also posed a challenge. They were not up to current standards, so they would have had to start from scratch, replacing all electrical and lighting fixtures—even the old pole bases were not adequate. It would have been a major disruption to trench down sidewalks and through landscaped areas to reconnect the electrical lines, and they didn't want to ruin the beautiful campus.

Our Solution: Finally deciding on Sol's GreenWay™ solar-powered LED lighting system, the administration saved 20% compared to hooking up a brand new system to the electrical grid. They selected a local installer, Willis Electric Co., to place the systems, and were very impressed how little time the lights took to assemble and install—they noted it was "just like an assembly line." There was also minimal disruption to the campus since they were installed over the winter break. Once installed, the lights were up and running that night.

Sol's warranty was also a nice bonus for the college. Maintenance is cut considerably because of LED lights rated to 70,000 hours (no light bulb changes for a long time), a 20-year solar panel warranty, and a 10-year warranty on electronics, wiring, and fixtures. Bob Chastain, the Director of the Physical Plant of the college, commented they "have not had to call anybody because the system is working great."

Commuter students now feel more welcomed and secure thanks to the college's new solar pathway lighting system. Many have commented on how the campus feels "brightened up."

"The new lighting systems make a statement that we are committed not only to safety but to renewable energy as well," Chastain explained. The college is so impressed with the lighting they are applying for additional grants for further capital improvements that include solar lighting on other sections of the campus.

