



CASE STUDY

MCFARLAND TRAIL LIGHTING

LOCATION

McFarland, CA

CUSTOMER

City of McFarland

APPLICATION

Community trail lighting

SYSTEM INSTALLED

23 x EverGen-M

TECHNICAL FEATURES

- Custom operating profile with scheduled dimming
- 4+ nights autonomy for low-solar periods

OPERATIONAL IMPACT

- No trenching or grid extension
- Supports safer nighttime travel
- Extends usable hours of the trail

THE CHALLENGE

The City of McFarland was transforming a vacant strip of land between a residential neighborhood and a state highway into a paved multi-use trail and community space. Because the corridor also served as an important pedestrian and cycling connection, lighting was needed to keep it safe and accessible after dark. With no electrical infrastructure nearby, conventional lighting would have required extending grid power across the property, adding trenching, wiring, cost, and disruption.

THE SOLUTION

Working with California lighting agent SCL North, Sol supplied 23 EverGen-M solar lighting systems, installed along the half-mile trail in May 2023. The lights follow a profile tailored to expected trail use: full output for seven hours after dusk, 30% overnight, then full output again for two hours before dawn. This provides stronger illumination during higher-use periods while conserving stored energy overnight.

THE IMPACT

The former dirt corridor is now a safer, more inviting route for pedestrians and cyclists and a community space that remains usable after dark. Solar lighting avoided the need to extend electrical infrastructure across the site while supporting the City's broader transformation of the lot. The project later received a regional transportation award from AASHTO in 2024.

