

# OPINION

## Light pollution a problem

The city's planning commission has a good idea that something should be done about light pollution.

Unfortunately its proposal included the minor offenders when it would have had a better chance of success with the council if it had solely addressed the primary culprit: billboards.

Our boards are lighted from below meaning they are aimed up to the stars we would like to see. Some small portion hits the sign, but most is wasted.

Many jurisdictions nation wide have a rule that all outdoor advertising be downward lighting (the lights are above the sign).

Just drive around and you will see what would be the benefit to that requirement here.

We have extreme spillage which comes from our upward lighting. A little goes to the sign. A lot goes to the sky.

Notice this rule would not interfere with free enterprise, the signs could still be lighted — and just as readable. The industry gets its visibility — and the community gets its night views.

An ordinance that makes sense...and makes a difference.

**Star Carey,  
Canyon Lake**