



CASE STUDY: LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL BUREAU PARKING GARAGE

Lighting Retrofit Drives Big Savings in Parking Garage

The chief of planning for the Nevada State Office of Energy noticed a tremendous opportunity to save energy in an unassuming location: The Legislative Council Bureau parking garage in Carson City. Using incentives from NV Energy, the state installed energy-efficient lighting and sensors throughout the structure. The state replaced hundreds of inefficient fluorescent and high-pressure sodium fixtures with bright and efficient LEDs. In stairwells and maintenance areas, high-performance T8 lamps and fixtures replaced aging T12s, and inefficient exit signs were upgraded throughout.



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Project Summary

The constant operating hours and outdated lighting equipment made the garage an attractive candidate for upgrades. The three-floor structure is open and lit 24 hours a day, though it is primarily used during normal business hours. When the Nevada Legislature is in session every other year, the garage buzzes with activity day and night.

The director of the Nevada State Office of Energy noted that this retrofit reflects exciting advancements in energy efficiency projects in the state. NV Energy incentives helped reduce the out-of-pocket project cost and shortened the project payback. The state of Nevada expects to save 325,000 kWh annually as a result.



Energy-saving Equipment

A unique aspect of the project is the blend of occupancy and daylight sensors. Basement-level fixtures use motion sensors to drop the lighting output from 110 watts to 39 watts when the area is unoccupied. This improvement provides security for drivers and energy savings for the state. Lighting on the ground level and second floor is controlled by occupancy and photocell sensors to maximize use of the area's abundant sunshine.



Project Results

Building Type: Municipality

Project Type: Retrofit

Measures: Lighting

Incentive: \$22,286

Projected Annual kWh Savings: 325,000