

City of Melissa
Water Tower Lights FAQ
(Originally Posted February 2013)

Who paid for this?

This is a City of Melissa project and funded by the City

How much was the project?

The cost was approximately \$50,000, with \$33,000 for materials and \$15,000 for installation. Funds were available through savings in a previous water system project that could only be used for water system projects.

What is the purpose of the project?

Several—The City Council’s strategic plan highlights the desire to build a “unique” community that honors our community pride and celebrates community spirit. This project was a unique application that would set Melissa apart and be a visible sign of the pride we have in our community by honoring the students’ accomplishments. The City could not find another LED lit water tower in our area and the manufacturer, who has done commercial, industrial, and casino applications had never done one, thus emphasizing that this LED light idea would be unique to the area.



Why is the whole Cardinal not lit?

The water tower painting and logo replacement is a separate project from the lighting. From a logistical standpoint, the water tower is constructed with straight sides and a curved top. The Cardinal logo painting could extend past the joint between the sides and top without looking disjointed. Because of the directional change of the water tower surface from flat to a curve, the LED light does not bend and thus the lighting dissipates very quickly past the joint. The short answer is that the lighting is not meant to illuminate the Cardinal logo, as every color other than white drowns out the logo. The lit tower can be clearly seen at the intersection of US 75 and Bloomdale Road and reported as far as sections of Blue Ridge.