



# Street Light Overcharges Recovered for City of Buffalo

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**Client profile:** The City of Buffalo, New York stretches over 52 square miles and has a population greater than 250,000, making it the second most populous city in the state. With over 32,000 streetlights and electric bills exceeding \$16 million a year, Buffalo Comptroller Mark J.F. Schroeder looked for outside help from an experienced bill auditing company – managing a city’s extensive utility billing can require expert assistance. The City of Buffalo issued an RFP bid, which was subsequently awarded to Troy & Banks.

**The results:** Over the course of the street light portion of the audit, Troy & Banks found that the City of Buffalo was being charged for 3,500 luminaires that did not exist. The disparity was a data entry error of the part of the city’s electricity provider, National Grid, which resulted in **\$1.1 million** in overcharges.

**The process:** Troy & Banks compared National Grid’s street light inventory with the city’s bill. An on-sight investigation followed; each street light location was visited and billing components were verified. This comparison revealed significant discrepancies. Troy & Banks then filed a claim on behalf of the city for a refund.

**Why T&B:** Troy & Banks is a contingency-based utility and telecommunications bill auditing company. As Comptroller Mark Schroeder stated on behalf of the City of Buffalo, “We don’t pay a dime unless we get money back...”

**Experience:** Troy & Banks has recovered over \$500 million for its clients and has performed over 10,000 utility audits in all 50 states. Some of its street light audit clients and their savings include: **Town of Cheektowaga, NY - \$300,000, Town of Dewitt, NY – \$261,000, City of Buford, GA - \$76,000, Village of Royal Palm Beach, FL - \$21,000, and City of Virginia Beach, VA - \$16,000.**

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- Mark Schroeder,  
City of Buffalo  
Comptroller

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**Over  
\$1.1 million  
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**Street light costs  
amount up to  
40% of  
municipalities'  
energy bills. Are  
you paying for  
more lights than  
you should?**

More testimonials can be found at [troybanks.com](http://troybanks.com).

