

WESTWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

January 14, 2015

Agenda Item # 5C (2)

MOTION TO SUPPORT COUNCILMEMBER PAUL KORETZ' POWER GRID UPGRADE MOTION

WHEREAS, the Westwood Neighborhood Council recognizes that the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) provides essential utility services to the City of Los Angeles, including a reliable grid.

WHEREAS, reliability of the power grid is critical to life, health, public safety, and economic advancement of the City and surrounding region.

WHEREAS, electric utility properties and equipment are distributed over a large region and there may be vulnerabilities to this equipment including but not limited to: extraordinary solar flares creating damaging Electromagnetic Pulse (EMP) effects, geomagnetic disturbances, nuclear and nonnuclear EMP weapons, physical attacks, cyber attacks, equipment failures, and power overloads.

WHEREAS, it is important that LADWP maintain the historical reliability of the power system and address the power grid vulnerabilities described.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the WWNC wholeheartedly and emphatically supports Councilman Paul Koretz's Motion to Maintain Historical Reliability of the Power System/Power Grid Vulnerabilities/Department of Water and Power which calls on the LADWP to report to the Energy and Environment Committee within 60 days regarding the vulnerability of our power grid, the costs and feasibility of upgrading and protecting the grid, and other related items. The WWNC urges all other Neighborhood and Community Councils and other stakeholder groups to join in and support this important effort. This WWNC position is to be filed as a Community Impact Statement in Council File Number 14-1960.

14-1690

MOTION

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) provides essential utility services to the City of Los Angeles, including a reliable grid. Reliability of the power grid is critical to life, health, public safety, and economic advancement of the City and surrounding region.

Electric utility properties and equipment are distributed over a large region and there may be vulnerabilities to this equipment including but not limited to: extraordinary solar flares creating damaging Electromagnetic Pulse (EMP) effects, geomagnetic disturbances, nuclear and non-nuclear EMP weapons, physical attacks, cyber attacks, equipment failures, and power overloads.

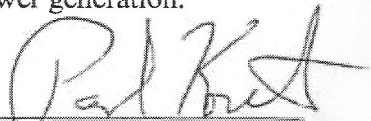
Additionally, the 2014 United Nations International Panel on Climate Change report warns that we are irreversibly on course to trigger the 3.6 degree Fahrenheit (2 degrees Celsius) global temperature tripwire that will "increase the likelihood of severe, pervasive and irreversible impacts for people and ecosystems," including more and worse extreme storm events, like those which have already been leaving affected areas without power sometimes for weeks.

It is important that LADWP maintain the historical reliability of the power system and address the power grid vulnerabilities described.

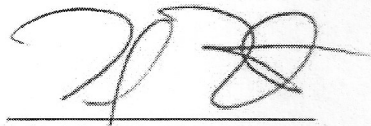
I THEREFORE MOVE that, within the provisions or limitations of prudent security practices, the LADWP report to the Energy and Environment Committee within 60 days on:

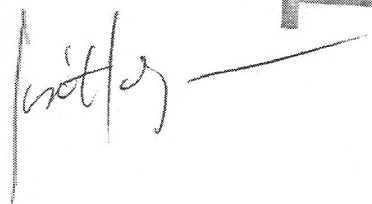
- The degree to which the electric utility properties and equipment (the power grid) are subject to damage from these vulnerabilities, the time spans and costs necessary for repair of such damage, and the impact such damage would inflict on the ability of the citizens, businesses, and governmental agencies to function in support of life, health, public safety, and economic advancement of the City and surrounding region;
- The standards used to prepare or protect the power grid from such vulnerabilities;
- The methods available to prepare or protect the power grid from such vulnerabilities, their costs, and their feasibilities;
- Practical and safe guidance as to how an individual utility customer, or a neighborhood, may be able to prepare for such emergencies as the inability of the LADWP to maintain service in the event of failures caused by these vulnerabilities, and how the City of Los Angeles could contribute to individual or neighborhood preparations;
- A comparison of the relative grid security and safety to residents of LADWP's service area by providing local renewable distributed generation sources and microgrids versus central station out-of-basin power generation.

PRESENTED BY:


PAUL KORETZ
Councilmember, 5th District

SECONDED BY:





DEC 09 2014

ORIGINAL

REVISED CITY SIGN ORDINANCE MOTION

WHEREAS, on December 17, 2014, the three member City Planning and Land Use Management Committee (PLUM), voted to approve a new revised city sign ordinance, which would protect the revenue of the sign companies and its property owners at the expense of the public, and grant amnesty to more than 1300 billboards that are either un-permitted or in violation of their permits, and allow hundreds of new digital billboards throughout the City including commercial billboards on public property,

WHEREAS, the WESTWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL recognizes that allowing new digital billboards on public property amounts to turning over our city to the highest bidder. The results will be park patrons seeking relaxation and recreation will now be bombarded with blinking commercial ads. Drivers on public roadways already preoccupied with cellphone texting and talking will face even more distractions.

WHEREAS any sign company wanting to show that their signs are permitted and legal must produce said permit.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the WESTWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL supports the following:

- No new digital signage installed unless a Council District specifically requests them;
- no "community benefits";
- No ~~commercial~~ billboards on any public property;
- Sign districts must be limited to those identified in 2009 City Planning Commission ordinance version; and
- No exceptions for Specific Plan or development agreement areas.