

MOTION

On Friday, July 6th, 2018, residents across the City experienced an extreme heatwave that lasted through the weekend. The Department of Water and Power (DWP) revealed that peak energy demand was the highest ever for that July day - and one of the highest on any day in the City's history.

The extreme heat, coupled with record-breaking demand resulted in power outages that affected approximately 50,000 customers. Approximately 10,000 customers were impacted by the power outages by 6 p.m. on July 6th. By 1 a.m. the next morning, the number of outages grew and peaked to close to 50,000 customers. This represented close to three percent of the DWP's 1.5 million residential customers.

Neighborhoods in the City's "metro" areas, communities in the central City south of Mulholland Drive, were impacted the most by the heat and power outages. Many residents in these areas were without power for consecutive days. Impacted residents also had to deal with inconsistent communication from the DWP as to the status of the outages and when the power would be restored.

Los Angeles residents deserve a full accounting of the circumstances that led to the power outages, details of the infrastructure upgrades currently underway, and what measures are in place to prevent widespread outages in the future - especially in this era of climate change.

The DWP should also report on the communication challenges it faced during this event; and its efforts to improve communication to ratepayers in the future.

In addition, the DWP recently reported that it seeks to implement planned power outages in the future in order to complete critical infrastructure upgrades.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Department of Water and Power (DWP) be requested to immediately report to the Council regarding the *July 6th, 2018 Heatstorm and Power Outage Occurrence*; specifically the following:

- Specific circumstances/operational issues that led to the power outage;
- Immediate actions taken to address the power outage, and the causes for delay in restoring power;
- Identification of infrastructure upgrades currently underway, the projected timelines for those upgrades, accountability measures in place to ensure for the timely completion of projects, and measures in place to prevent widespread outages in the future; and

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- Methods/approaches to make the DWP's electrical infrastructure climate-change resilient.

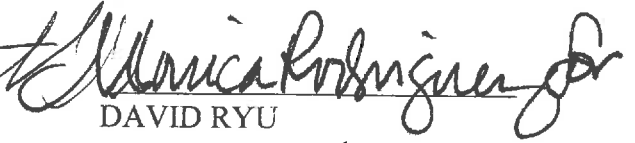
I FURTHER MOVE that the DWP report to the Council on the communication challenges it faced during the *July 6th, 2018 Heatstorm and Power Outage Occurrence*, and ways to improve its communication to impacted communities in the future, specifically:

- The sharing of accurate, real-time information with DWP customers;
- The sharing of accurate, real-time information and coordination with City departments and agencies, including, but not limited to LAPD, LAFD, DOT and EMD, that may perform first-responder functions in the event of a power outage.

I FURTHER MOVE that the DWP report to the Council on its efforts to implement planned power outages in order to complete infrastructure upgrades; including its potential impact on local communities.

PRESENTED BY:


MITCH O'FARRELL
Councilmember, 13th District


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Councilmember, 4th District

SECONDED BY:

