MOTION

Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) is the nation's second busiest airport after Atlanta's Hartsfield-Jackson (ATL). Recently Hartsfield-Jackson experienced a crippling power failure lasting nearly 11 hours. The failure grounded thousands of flights causing a ripple effect of delays across the entire country, including LAX. The logistical impact of these delays accompanied a major loss of revenue for the airport and the various airlines operating out of this critical transportation hub.

With LAX as the single busiest origin and destination based airport in the United States hosting airlines from all over the world, any disruption of service due to power failures could eclipse even what Hartsfield-Jackson experienced. LAX has been experiencing power quality and reliability issues. On August 25, 2017, the City Council called on the Department of Water and Power (DWP) and the Office of Public Accountability (OPA) to report back on these issues and propose ways to reduce the likelihood of future failures. Since then, the power failure at Hartsfield-Jackson has proven that resolving this issue is urgent and even more critical. Power outages are not acceptable at our hospitals and our first responder facilities — and we cannot tolerate such a significant risk of a power failure at LAX. Our airport is more than a city asset; it is a veritable city unto itself, a driver of the regional economy, the site of billion-dollar construction projects, and an indispensable part of the national and international transportation network.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Department of Water and Power (DWP), in collaboration with Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA), within 30 days provide an action plan with implementation timelines for infrastructure upgrades that ensure that LAX has adequate power capacity to prevent intermittent power failures and has power redundancy to ensure incidents like those experienced in Atlanta do not occur here.

I FURTHER MOVE that Department of Water and Power (DWP) and Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA), on a quarterly basis, provide a joint written report to the City Council, detailing progress on achieving power reliability at LAX.

PRESENTED BY:

MIKE BONIN

Councilmember, 11th District

SECONDED BY:

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