

MOTION

Shortages in blood available for emergencies could occur in the United States for a wide variety of reasons, including: natural disasters, episodic spikes in trauma-related events, other medical treatment emergencies, and terrorism attacks. While there is an already established network of blood banks throughout the country, blood cannot be stored more than 42 days. In fact, because blood bank supply does not always match up perfectly to demand, about one million pints of donated blood are thrown out every year. Additionally, there are times when donations are low and blood is scarce. Thousands of lives could be saved if blood supplies were adequate during times of urgent need.

USBloodDonors.org is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit public service organization that has attempted to address this occasional gap between blood bank supply and demand by creating a "stand-by" program that contacts individuals who voluntarily pre-register to donate blood in the event of an emergent need. Volunteers register their name, blood-type (if known), an e-mail address or phone number, and zip code in a privacy-protected donor registry.

Potential donors are notified on a real-time basis by e-mail or text when life-threatening shortages exist in their geographic area so they can help by either donating blood or getting the word out in the community via social media. By registering individuals prior to a disaster, thousands of potential blood donors who may not currently donate blood on a regular basis will be immediately reachable to donate and save lives. The entire County could benefit from an expansion of this program.

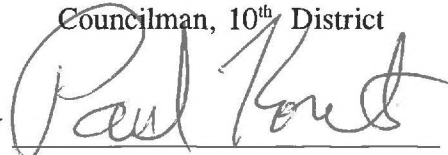
I THEREFORE MOVE that the Controller and the Personnel Department be requested to investigate the feasibility of creating special announcements to be included in City employee payroll statements and/or other appropriate City employee communications, regarding opportunities for employees to voluntarily register with USBloodDonors.org as "stand-by" blood donors in the event of an urgent or emergent need, as further detailed in the text of this Motion.

PRESENTED BY



HERB J. WESSON, Jr.  
Councilman, 10<sup>th</sup> District

SECONDED BY



OCT 13 2017

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