

MOTION

In recent years, power and water infrastructure in the City's hillsides has been deficient and under-performing. Power outages and water pipe bursts are becoming more and more common. Many of the City's hillside neighborhoods were subdivided and built in the early 1910s to 1930s. The infrastructure that supports these neighborhoods was put in place during this period and was designed to meet reasonable service level demands.

However, the current trend in hillside neighborhoods involves demolishing existing housing stock and replacing it with large single-family homes. Many of these new homes are 3 to 10 times larger than the prior home and the homes in the surrounding community. In addition, many of these larger homes contain large pools, entertainment facilities and other structures.

Given this construction trend, it is important to determine if it is the cause of the recent infrastructure challenges. Are these larger homes overburdening existing water and power infrastructure in the hillside communities? Are these homes demanding more power than the system was designed to provide? Are these homes demanding more water, and water pressure, than the system was designed to provide?

In turn, what are the impacts to the pre-existing homes in the surrounding area and their moderate power and water needs. It is important to review this matter to better understand the potential cause of recent infrastructure challenges. In this manner, the service needs of all residents can be adequately met.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Department of Water and Power (DWP), in consultation with the Department of Building & Safety, be requested to report to the Council in 90 days on the recent power and water system infrastructure challenges/service issues impacting hillside communities in the City; and whether these challenges are associated with the development of larger single-family homes in these areas.

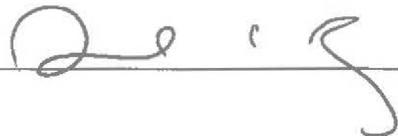
I FURTHER MOVE that the DWP report on the existing power and water system infrastructure in hillside communities and its adequacy to meet current service level needs; and steps the DWP can take to ensure reliable service levels for all residents in these areas, including infrastructure upgrades and costs.

I FURTHER MOVE that the DWP report on the development of an *informational bulletin* that describes the average power and water usage of small, moderate and large single-family homes; their respective demands on the power and water system infrastructure; and steps residents can take to conserve and mitigate these demands.

PRESENTED BY:


PAUL KORETZ
Councilmember, 5th District

SECONDED BY:




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