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COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS

COMMITTEES AND RULES
ETHICS AND GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT
BUDGET & GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION & ENERGY
HEALTH AND HUMAN RELATIONS
HOUSING AND REAL ESTATE
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Joint Committee on Economic, Capital, and Technology Development and Environmental Protection and Energy Monthly Rule 45 Report: December 2023

Pursuant to Rule 45 of the City of Chicago Rules and Order, the **Joint Committee on Economic, Capital & Technology Development, and Environmental & Energy Protection** submits the following monthly report for **December 2023**.

Date, Time & Location of Meeting:

On December 6, 2023, at 10:00 a.m., the Committee on Economic, Capital & Technology Development and the Committee on Environmental Protection & Energy held a joint meeting in City Hall Council Chambers in Chicago, Illinois.

Roll Call:

The following committee members were present: Villegas (36), Hadden (49), Daniel LaSpata (1), William Hall (6), Gregory Mitchell (7), Peter Chico (10), Nicole Lee (11), Monique Scott (8), Byron Sigcho-Lopez (25), Ruth Cruz (30), Felix Cardona (31), Scott Waguespack (32), William Conway (34), Anthony Napolitano (41), Brendan Reilly (42), Bennett Lawson (44), Anglea Clay (46), Matthew Martin (47), and Leni Manaa-Hoppenworth (2)

Non-members present: Alderman Burnett (27)

The following members were absent: Julia Ramirez (12), Jélyu Gutierrez (14), Raymond Lopez (15), Ronnie Mosley (21), Silvana Tabares (23), Rossana Rodriguez-Sanchez (33), Emma Mitts (37), and Timothy Knudsen (43)

Reports and Materials Received by Committee:

- 1) *Getting the Lead Out: Removing Lead Pipes Would Yield Hundreds of Billions of Dollars in Health Benefits* from the Natural Resources Defense Council
- 2) *Cities must replace harmful lead pipes within 10 years under new Biden administration plan* by Michael Phillis (published in the Chicago Tribune on November 30, 2023)
- 3) *For too long, my Chicago neighbors and I have lived with lead in our water. Enough is enough* by Vanessa Bly (Commentary published in the Chicago Tribune on August 16, 2023)
- 4) Slide deck from the Department of Public Health on health risks from lead
- 5) Slide deck from the Department of Water Management containing an overview of its Lead Service Line Replacement program
- 6) Slide deck from the Department of Finance

Public Comment:

There were **6** public speakers and **0** written comments.

Written Public Comment Submission:

No written public comments were received by the joint committee.

Public Comment Speakers:

Jamila Wilson
Iyana Simba
Sandra Roman
Isis Bazaldua
Crystal Vance
Vanessa Bly

The Committee addressed the following items:

- 1. A subject matter hearing on R2023-0002804 regarding lead service line replacement programs.**

Chairman Villegas asked for a motion to recommend approval of **R2023-0002804**. Alderman Martin (47) so moved; the item passed without objection, and Chairman Villegas stated that the do-pass recommendation would be reported out at the following City Council meeting.

Several City representatives, regional partners, and community partners were present to provide testimony. Those included:

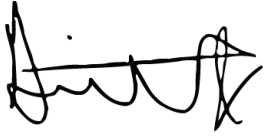
- a. Janna Kerins, Medical Director for the Department of Public Health, discussed the health impacts of lead exposure and the department's efforts around community engagement, outreach, and prevention.
- b. Chakena Perry with the Natural Resources Defense Council discussed its *Getting the Lead Out: Removing Lead Pipes Would Yield Hundreds of Billions of Dollars in Health Benefits* study, and the substantial health savings Chicago would see by replacing its lead service lines.
- c. Brenda Santoyo with the Little Village Environmental Justice Organization discussed how organizations, such as hers, fill in engagement and outreach gaps in the community and help people navigate the City's difficult bureaucracy around lead service lines and filters.
- d. Anna-Lisa Castle Gonzalez with Elevate discussed the deterrents that homeowners and property owners face in lead service line replacement.

- e. Jones Richmond with Local 130 discussed the importance of plumbers and how an expanded lead service line replacement program will provide employment opportunities for plumbers.
- f. Michael Weidmaier with the Underground Contractors discussed how water infrastructure projects strengthen the economy and drive economic growth.
- g. Dan Allen with the Construction Industry Services Corporation discussed how lead service line replacement can increase the diversification of the workforce and create new apprenticeship opportunities.
- h. Al Sacramento with LIUNA discussed how lead service line replacement can create more local union jobs.
- i. Tiffany Ward with the Indiana, Illinois, and Iowa Foundation for Fair Contracting encouraged a robust lead replacement program and discussed the economic benefits of employing union labor to do the work.
- j. MariCarmen Macias with SEIU discussed the DCFS requirements for daycare centers on lead water testing and mitigation plans, and the challenges, both financial and bureaucratic, that small daycare owners face with the requirement.
- k. Commissioner Cheng with the Department of Water Management shared a presentation on the Department of Water Management's lead service line replacement program.
- l. Cathy Bailey, Executive Director of Cincinnati Water Works, spoke about challenges the city faced with its lead service line replacement program, and how those challenges were overcome.
- m. Kareem Adeem, Director of Newark's Department of Sewer and Water Utilities, discussed challenges Newark faced with replacing its lead service lines and made recommendations on how to overcome them.
- n. Jill Jaworski, Chief Financial Officer of the City of Chicago, discussed funding challenges the city faces in the lead service line replacement efforts.
- o. Justin Williams with the Metropolitan Planning Council discussed the need to create a program that reduces costs, takes advantage of state and federal funding, identifies a progressive revenue stream, and engages stakeholders early on.

Representatives responded to all questions, and the question-and-answer period concluded.

Having no further business before the joint committee, Chairman Villegas requested a motion to adjourn. Alderman Mitchell so moved; hearing no objections, Chairman Villegas adjourned the meeting at 3:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Gilbert Villegas', with a stylized, cursive script.

Chairman Gilbert Villegas (36)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Maria E. Hadden', with a stylized, cursive script.

Chairwoman Maria E. Hadden (49)