

RESOLUTION No. 185
EQUITABLE INFRASTRUCTURE GROWTH PROGRAM

WHEREAS, municipal infrastructure, long thought of as roads and basic utilities such as power, water, sewer, and gas now include public transportation, wireless communications, public WiFi, and fiber optic networks and the City of St. Louis is faced with aging and inadequate infrastructure that must be modernized in order to support City wide ‘smart city’ initiatives; and

WHEREAS, the City of St. Louis needs Twenty-First Century infrastructure solutions that work in all neighborhoods; and the City of St. Louis can no longer treat infrastructure development like an ongoing crisis, but must approach it as an opportunity not to be missed; and

WHEREAS, a proactive approach to building infrastructure that creates multiple benefits for communities and includes public and private partnerships that provide jobs and have the long-term benefit of fostering social and economic advantages, and ensure equitable outcomes for all areas of the City of St. Louis is needed; and any efforts to modernize the City’s infrastructure, given current conditions, should be undertaken pursuant to a comprehensive infrastructure growth and modernization program that established by Mayor Krewson known as the Equitable Infrastructure Growth (EIG) Program; and the City of St. Louis needs a program such as the EIG to make a significant down payment on the City’s future, and address the current challenges facing our infrastructure needs.

WHEREAS, modernizing the City’s infrastructure under the EIG program will increase community resilience by: replacing aging and obsolete infrastructure before they fail or become hazards; making utilities failures or outages due to age, disaster and extreme weather events less likely; reducing the time it takes to detect and respond to utilities failures and outages; reducing the time it takes to restore services after a failure or outage; preventing failures and outages and automatically rerouting utilities via smart technology; reducing the frequency and duration of disruptions to the flow of vehicular and pedestrian traffic; and encouraging utilities, fiber network, internet, and wireless service providers to coordinate maintenance and construction across the City; and

WHEREAS, the Equitable Infrastructure Growth program (EIG) is also intended to: ensure equal access to technology including affordable access to highspeed internet for all City residents and businesses; increase access to internet and technology via free public WiFi in public locations such as parks, recreation and civic centers; and accelerate the deployment of new technologies and the ‘smart city initiative across the City; and

WHEREAS, an effective program will reduce costs associated with the construction, maintenance and replacement of infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, The City has initiated the EIG program and participants already include the Water Department, Board of Public Service, Streets Department, Ameren, Bi-State Development/Metro, ESRI, Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District, Spire and Sprint.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN as follows:

1. The Board of Aldermen strongly supports the development of the Equitable Infrastructure Growth Program, and encourages the Board of Public Service and the Chief Technology Officer to continue efforts to establish the requisite partnerships to support the program, and take a leadership role in the development, coordination and implementation of the program.
2. The Board of Aldermen strongly encourages the Board of Public Service and Chief Technology Officer to include the following:
 - Refinement of geographical construction grids that apply to all construction that requires the opening of streets, alleys, paths and sidewalks, or construction that will otherwise impede the flow of vehicular and pedestrian travel.
 - Establish a per construction grid public works plan governing construction associated with capital improvements including when how often construction may take place, and minimum periods of time between construction in the same grid.
 - Assign and publish construction windows for each grid and assign construction timeframes to all approved permits based on established construction windows.
 - Whenever possible and practical, limit construction within a grid outside of the construction timeframe established for a grid, charge an increased permitting fee, and/or enforce stricter restoration requirements for construction outside of the established timeframes.
3. The Board of Aldermen requests that the President of Board of Public Service and the Chief Technology Officer or their designees provide an annual update to the Board of Aldermen on the progress of the Equitable Infrastructure Growth Program.

Introduced on the 16th day of November 2018 by:

The Honorable Thomas Oldenburg, Alderman 16th Ward
The Honorable Jeffrey Boyd, Alderman 22nd Ward
The Honorable Beth Murphy, Alderwoman 13th Ward
The Honorable Sarah Martin, Alderwoman 11th Ward
The Honorable Lisa Middlebrook, Alderwoman 2nd Ward

Adopted this the 16th day of November 2018, as attested by:

Louis Galli
Interim Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen