


RESOLUTION
R-18-36

CITY HALL: February 8, 2018

BY:  COUNCILMEMBERS WILLIAMS, HEAD, GUIDRY, BROSSETT AND GRAY

RESOLUTION AND ORDER OPENING AN INQUIRY INTO ESTABLISHING A
SMART CITIES INITIATIVE FOR THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS AND DIRECTING
ENTERGY NEW ORLEANS, LLC TO REPORT WITH RESPECT TO MATTERS
RELATED TO GRID MODERNIZATION

Docket No. UD-18-01

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Constitution of the State of Louisiana and the Home Rule Charter of the City of New Orleans ("Charter"), the Council of the City of New Orleans ("Council") is the governmental body with the power of supervision, regulation, and control over public utilities providing service within the City of New Orleans; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to its powers of supervision, regulation, and control over public utilities, the Council is responsible for fixing and changing rates and charges of public utilities and making all necessary rules and regulations to govern applications for the fixing and changing of rates and charges of public utilities; and

WHEREAS, Entergy New Orleans, LLC ("ENO") is a public utility providing electric and natural gas service to all of New Orleans;¹ and

WHEREAS, pursuant to its powers of supervision, regulation, and control over public utilities, the Council is responsible for granting utility franchises related to wireless and wireline telecommunications; and

¹ On November 30, 2017, Entergy New Orleans, Inc. undertook a restructuring which resulted in the transfer of substantially all of its assets and operations to Entergy New Orleans, LLC, which since that date provides retail electric and gas utility service to New Orleans.

WHEREAS, there have been enormous changes to and advances in the state of technology related to electric grids, telecommunications and data systems; and

WHEREAS, virtually every aspect of what cities do and how their residents live and work are affected by advanced technology; and

WHEREAS, electric grid technology, information and communication technology, the internet of things and other aspects of modern urban life are profoundly affected by how technology is deployed and integrated into all aspects city services and the lives of residents and businesses; and

WHEREAS, the Council has repeatedly expressed support for the efficient use of clean sustainable technology to improve the quality of life for our citizens and businesses; and

WHEREAS, municipal governments around the globe recognize that deploying sustainable strategies and becoming technologically smarter is necessary to improve quality of life and to gain a competitive advantage in attracting investment and positive growth; and

WHEREAS, New Orleans stands at the edge of this technological frontier and how we respond will either make us a true twenty-first century city or consign us to being a technological backwater laggard; and

WHEREAS, many cities in this country and around the world have responded to this challenge by investigating, refining and adopting a Smart Cities initiative; and

WHEREAS, Smart Cities initiatives are based upon concepts of highly-integrated technology services and systems that are developed and deployed to maximize technology for the benefit of a city's residents and businesses ; and

WHEREAS, the cornerstone of a Smart Cities initiative is the modernization of the electric grid and its integration with other technologies; and

WHEREAS, in addition to electric grid modernization Smart Cities also incorporate advanced telecommunications and Wi-Fi technology, high speed data services, advanced mobile applications, interactive communications with utility providers, and advanced public safety technology; and

WHEREAS, the Council desires to incorporate public safety technology, such as gunshot sensors, smart street lights, crime stat data bases, traffic and crowd management technology, etc. into its Smart Cities initiative; and

WHEREAS, the Council has as an overriding goal that the fruits of the Smart Cities Initiative will benefit the entire community, including lower income residents, now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS

THAT:

1. The Council establishes Docket No. UD-18-01 to consider *An Inquiry Into Establishing a Smart Cities Initiative for the City of New Orleans.*
2. The Honorable Jeffrey Gulin is hereby appointed as Hearing Officer in this docket to preside over the proceedings and rule on procedural disputes, including motions and discovery, and shall, for good cause shown and as required by the circumstances of the proceeding, has the authority to change or amend the procedural dates set forth herein.
3. To the extent that the City Clerk's office closes before 5:00 pm on the date of any deadline contained herein or otherwise set by the Hearing Officer, the deadline shall be extended to the next business day.
4. The Council Utility Advisors are directed to establish an appropriate procedural schedule.

5. ENO is directed to file with the Council within sixty (60) days of the adoption of this resolution by the Council a report detailing available grid modernization technologies together with a description of how such modernization could be implemented by ENO.
6. The Council Utility Advisors are directed to prepare a report detailing other aspects of technology integration that could be achieved consistent with the Smart Cities initiative. The report shall also examine and report on strategies to assure that the fruits of the initiative will benefit the entire community, including lower income residents.

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS READ IN FULL, THE ROLL WAS CALLED ON THE ADOPTION THEREOF AND RESULTED AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Brossett, Cantrell, Gray, Head, Ramsey, Williams - 6

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 0

RECUSED: Guidry - 1

AND THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

THE FOREGOING IS CERTIFIED
TO BE A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY
Lara W. Johnson
CLERK OF COUNCIL