ECON

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the City has current contracts to replace lead service lines, but the contracts are either being underutilized or not utilized at all, leaving City of Chicago certified minority business enterprises (MBEs) and women owned business enterprises (WBEs) with little to no work with the City of Chicago – a major source of their revenues; and

WHEREAS, given the dismal failures of the lead service and water main replacement programs, many City of Chicago certified MBEs and WBEs have been left with equipment and crews sitting idle; and

WHEREAS, these same MBEs and WBEs have had no choice but to layoff numerous City of Chicago residents, and some MBEs and WBEs have dissolved, or are on the verge of dissolution; and

WHEREAS, without recognition of the burden on the City of Chicago's union workers created by the above-described situation which has resulted in reduced workhours and unemployment, ComEd seeks renewal of its franchise agreement; and

WHEREAS, ComEd attorney, Glenn Rippie, has stated that ComEd seeks to recover its construction spending through the bills paid by residents of the City of Chicago pursuant to a franchise agreement that has yet to be renewed; and

WHEREAS, upon information and belief, ComEd does not utilize MBEs and WBEs to handle most of its construction work, but instead utilizes large multinational corporations that are not certified by the City of Chicago and have less than 25% of qualified minority ownership; and

WHEREAS, these multinational companies are also not owned by a majority of a qualified ethnic group or a group of women and therefore would not qualify as MBEs or WBEs in the City of Chicago; and

WHEREAS, these multinational companies are publicly traded entities located outside the State of Illinois, which by their sheer size and number of resources can crush small businesses in the City of Chicago which are struggling to survive; and

WHEREAS, ComEd uses the dollars its spends with these multinational companies toward its MBE and WBE goals when promoting its alleged diverse spending; and

WHEREAS, before the City of Chicago renews ComEd's franchise agreement, the City of Chicago must obtain information from ComEd about its MBE and WBE usage and spending.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that ComEd shall appear before the Chicago City Council's Committee on Economic, Capital and Technology Development to discuss its MBE and WBE usage and spending; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that before its scheduled appearance before the City Council's Committee on Economic, Capital and Technology Development, ComEd shall provide to the Chairman of the Committee a summary of its MBE and WBE usage and spending for the years 2022 and 2023.

Stephanie Coleman 1,6th Ward

Felix Cardona

31st Ward

Silvana Tabares 23rd Ward