

THE CITY OF WARWICK
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

NO..... DATE.....

APPROVED.....MAYOR

**RESOLUTION REGARDING AN ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY
OF POWER OUTAGES**

Resolved that,

WHEREAS, the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the City of Warwick are matters of paramount importance to the City Council; and

WHEREAS, with repeated power outages on Warwick Neck, homeowners and businesses are suffering losses, and we have not yet hit the heavy, winter weather; and

WHEREAS, these power outages create more than a temporary inconvenience and present a real out of pocket cost to homeowners and the businesses on Warwick Neck and throughout the city, with a true loss in income to the city and the state; and

WHEREAS, property owners increasingly need generators to maintain warmth (or air conditioning) in their homes, refrigeration for food and dairy products, power for certain medical devices, and stoves for cooking, all of which are a cost and inconvenience (There is the additional risk of frozen pipes and resultant damage in homes, places of worship, schools and businesses.); and

WHEREAS, there is also added cost and inconvenience to businesses, including three major event venues – Warwick Country Club, Our Lady of Providence’s Aldrich Mansion, and Harbor Lights that require additional generators to service events; and

WHEREAS, power disruptions do more than inconvenience bridal parties and social events because they cause lost revenue to the city and state because of cancellations. Power outages also mean these facilities have to close, with lost wages for temporarily-sent home hospitality staff, lost revenues to subcontractors and vendors – and in turn, more lost revenue to the city and state; and

WHEREAS, for other small businesses on Warwick Neck Avenue, without generators, there are similar lost wages for workers and lost revenues to the city and state; and

WHEREAS, multiplying this across the city, particularly for those that are frequently affected

1 by power outages, it is clear there is a real cost to homeowners, small businesses, workers, and to the
2 city and state.

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4 WHEREAS, there are organizations and individuals with the expertise to conduct fiscal
5 impact studies, and with the probability of future power outages, we ought to have a clear, empirical
6 understanding of what those economic impacts are.

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8 NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the City Council hereby recommends that
9 the City hire of a professional firm or individual to conduct an economic impact study on the effects
10 of power outages on homeowners and businesses in the City.

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12 The City Clerk is hereby directed to forward a copy of this Resolution to the Planning
13 Department Director and the Mayor.

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15 This Resolution shall take effect upon passage.
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20 SPONSORED BY: COUNCILMAN LADOUCEUR

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22 COMMITTEE: FINANCE