



Jim Donison, P.E. *Public Works Commissioner*

To: Eileen Donoghue, City Manager *EMD*

From: Jim Donison, P.E., Public Works Commissioner

Date: April 13, 2018

RE: Council Motion of 9.5 4/10/2018 C. Cirillo

C. Cirillo – Req. City Mgr. Instruct The Proper Department Provide a Report Of Any Broken Streetlights That Are In Need Of Replacement And In The Report Have Protective Options For The Lights, For Example a Grate Placed Underneath.

The City of Lowell Department of Public Works and the City Electrician manages a contracted relationship with Coviello Electric for the inspection and maintenance of the streetlights throughout the City.

Citizens are able to report a street light outage via the City web site on "How do I ..." and DPW receives the comment/request via Civic Plus program.

Weekly the City Electrician provides a report of outages that are to be scheduled for repair. Of the outages, those that can be repaired by Coviello Electric are completed within an average of 3.5 days. Larger scale issues that require the utility to address are communicated to National Grid. The March '18 report identified 86 outages from the approximately 6500 lights in the City. Out of that total, 71 of them are the responsibility of National Grid.

In FY2018, the City has undergone a conversion to LED streetlights. Other than the benefit of energy savings, these lights were specified to be made from poly-carbonate rather than glass. The reason for this is to provide more protection and to be shatter proof, thus eliminating the need for a protective "screen". As an update, the project is nearing completion with the final conversion needing to occur on the decorative lighting, most notably in the Downtown.

The Department of Public Works encourages residents to report streetlight outages through the City Website (www.lowellma.gov).

Feel welcome to contact me with any questions you may have on this matter.