

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, the City of Chicago is considering proposals to decarbonize buildings within the City; and

WHEREAS, the proposals may require new buildings to be built with all-electric heating and cooking systems; and

WHEREAS, the City has not studied the financial impact to Chicago residents in converting to all-electric residences and buildings or the cost to convert the electric power generation fleet to renewable resources or to upgrade the transmission and distribution system to handle a larger electric load; and

WHEREAS, the City has not studied the potential increase in greenhouse gases from the fossil-fuel generation which will be required to provide the increased electric load; and

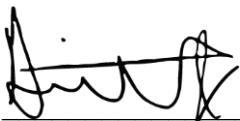
WHEREAS, the City issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) on August 1, 2023 to select providers to administer the Residential Decarbonization and Retrofit Program to provide low and moderate income homeowners with upgrades to their heating and cooling systems; and

WHEREAS, the RFP authorized spending \$15 million to decarbonize 200-350 homes which amounts to an average cost of \$43,000 - \$75,000 per home; and

WHEREAS, requiring new buildings to be all-electric will shift the cost of the current natural gas system to older housing stock, much of which is in moderate and low-income neighborhoods, and will result in inequity and injustice to those who can least afford it; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that before adopting decarbonization initiatives, the City's Chief Sustainability Officer shall create a working group comprised of representatives of Peoples Gas, Commonwealth Edison, Building Owners and Managers Association, Chicago Realtors Association, Chicago Restaurant Association, labor organizations and environmental organizations to analyze the costs of converting buildings from natural gas to electricity, costs for additional generation capacity needed for future building conversion, and the impacts of shifting costs from new construction to existing buildings if electrification measures are adopted; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon completion of the study, the results shall be presented to a hearing of the Committee on Environmental Protection and Energy.



Gilbert Villegas

Alderman, 36th Ward