

14-0335

PUBLIC WORKS & GANG REDUCTION

MOTION

The Urban Heat Island (UHI) effect is a growing concern to cities worldwide, including the City of Los Angeles. As more land is replaced by heat absorbing structures and pavements, strategies such as cool streets help to mitigate the effects of UHI that are contributed by pavements.

Cool streets or pavements describe a collection of various technologies that help to reduce temperatures of new and existing pavements. Conventional asphalt pavements produce a dark and impervious surface that can easily absorb and retain heat from the solar radiation. Darker surfaces have a low albedo (reflectance) and their impermeable surfaces cannot retain moisture which prevents cooling from evaporation. These surfaces retain heat and increase ambient temperatures. Cool pavement strategies to reduce the UHI effect focus on technologies that improve albedo, enable evaporative cooling and/or reduce heat conduction.

The Bureau of Street Services (BSS) and the General Services Department (GSD) have been working with the Heat Island Group at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory to identify pavement treatments that are lighter in color than the black asphalt and rubberized slurry seal now being used to implement the Pavement Preservation Program. Testing has been undertaken on a light colored seal coat and a light colored rubberized slurry seal.

Given the importance of developing effective mitigation measures to reduce the UHI effect, BSS and GSD should be directed to report their findings and provide recommendations for next steps. Such report should include a cost/benefit analysis to determine when benefits outweigh costs at which time the City could move forward to implement alternative treatments.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Bureau of Street Services and the Department of General Services be instructed to report on their current efforts in identifying alternative paving materials capable of reducing the Urban Heat Island effect and to provide recommendations for next possible steps; such report should include a cost/benefit analysis.

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[Signature]
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