

May 21, 2025

The Honorable City Council
c/o Petty F. Santos
Office of the City Clerk
Room 360, City Hall

COUNCIL FILE NO. 25-0172 - City Fire Hydrant Network / Repair and Maintenance / Outlet Fire Hydrant Replacement

SUMMARY

This report provides the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power's (LADWP) response to its fire hydrant replacement and repair program.

RECOMMENDATION

That the City Council RECEIVE AND FILE this report.

BACKGROUND

During January 2025, four different fires ravaged the City. The Palisades Fire located in Pacific Palisades and within LADWP's West Los Angeles District burned 23,707 acres. The Sunset Fire located in Hollywood and within LADWP's Palms District burned 43 acres. The Hurst Fire in Sylmar, and the Archer Fire in Granada Hills, both within LADWP's Van Nuys District, burned 799 acres and 19 acres, respectively. These four fires caused the loss of power to approximately 35,800 customers. By January 31, 2025, all four fires were contained ([fire.ca.gov](https://www.fire.ca.gov)).

On February 14, 2025, the City Council introduced Motion 25-0172. The motion requested that LADWP report a comprehensive analysis of the Fire Department and LADWP's workflow for inspecting and repairing the City's network of fire hydrants. It also asked LADWP to present a work plan to repair any fire hydrants that are found to be in need of repair or further maintenance based on the above analysis, and to complete any required work within 30 days of presentation. The motion also instructed the City Administrative Officer to coordinate with LADWP and report on the cost of replacing the City's stock of 2.5-inch outlet fire hydrants with 4-inch outlet fire hydrants.

DISCUSSION

Current Workflow for Fire Hydrant Repairs

Since February, the workflow process is for LAFD to email LADWP the fire hydrant repair list in an Excel file on a weekly basis. The list is reviewed for consistency and uploaded into a geographic information system (GIS) software application for access by field personnel using mobile devices across all five Districts covering LADWP's entire service area. Field personnel then prioritize and assess each identified fire hydrant, perform the needed repair or replacement, and document the work completed. The progress of the repairs is tracked in real time, displayed on a dashboard, and reports can be generated on demand and output to an Excel file for sharing with LAFD. In addition to providing the Excel repair list, for any damaged or inoperable fire hydrant requiring immediate attention, the workflow process is for LAFD to contact the LADWP Trouble Board. A crew is immediately dispatched to make repairs.

Improving Data Sharing Between LADWP and LAFD

On March 26, LADWP Executive Management met with the LAFD Fire Marshal to discuss streamlining the inspection and repair of fire hydrants. Both agencies agreed that LAFD is going to examine a couple of scenarios that would make the inspection program more sustainable - such as assigning the inspection work to firefighters on OT to ensure other priorities do not slow down the inspection or contracting the work out. During the meeting, the Departments also discussed the possibility of having a single database to hold information on inspection and repairs. LAFD currently uses an application called the Fire Inspection Management System (FIMS) to capture the inspection results.

Enter <http://inspect.lafd.org> into your browser address bar to access FIMS.

Although LADWP and LAFD each currently have their own software application for tracking hydrant repairs, LADWP IT staff will investigate creating a single application that both LAFD and LADWP can use together. This would eliminate LAFD's need to send inspection results to LADWP via email and would provide both entities with real-time information: LAFD will be able to see the status of repairs as they happen. Both Departments will have their IT staff recommend solutions. The next meeting is scheduled for the week of June 2nd, 2025.

Fire Hydrant Repairs

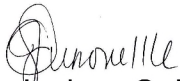
As soon as LADWP was provided with the above-mentioned list of fire hydrants in need of repair, it deployed staff to work exclusively on fire hydrant repairs 6 days/week. As of May 15th, LADWP has repaired 2106 hydrants (out of 2290 reported). Currently, LAFD is providing updated list of hydrants to be repaired on a weekly basis.

FISCAL IMPACT

Receiving and filing this report has no fiscal impact. LADWP is working closely with LAFD to automate communication between the departments to provide real time fire hydrant status.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Paul Habib, Director of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs, at Paul.Habib@ladwp.com or (213) 367-3846.

Respectfully,



Janisse Quiñones

Chief Executive Officer and Chief Engineer

FC:

Cc: Hon. Traci Park, Councilmember, 11th District
Luis Gutierrez, Office of the Mayor
Paul Habib, LADWP



Council File No. 25-0172 Response

City Fire Hydrant Network / Repair and
Maintenance / Outlet Fire Hydrant Replacement

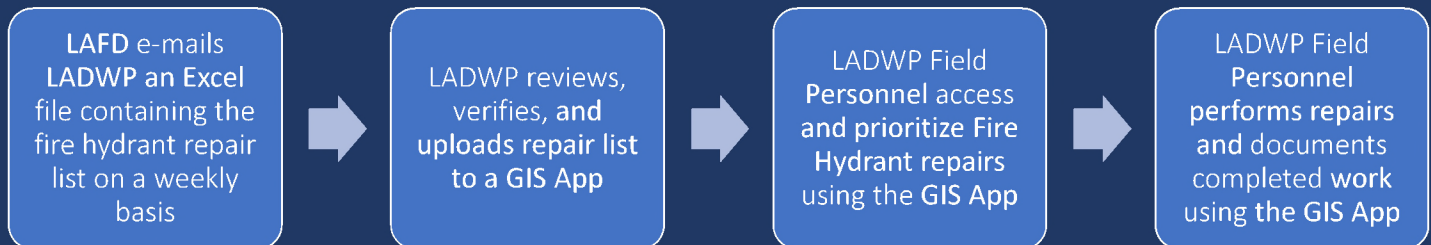
Background & Motion Request

On February 14, 2025, the City Council introduced Motion 25-0172 and requested that LADWP complete the following:

- Report a comprehensive analysis of the Fire Department and LADWP's workflow for inspecting and repairing fire hydrants
- Present a work plan to repair fire hydrants identified as needing repair or maintenance
- Complete any required hydrant repair work within 30 days of presentation
- Report on the cost to replace 2.5-inch single outlet fire hydrants with 4-inch fire hydrants

Current Workflow for Fire Hydrant Repairs

LADWP in partnership with LAFD has the following fire hydrant inspection, repair, and maintenance workflow in place as of February 2025:



Progress of repairs is tracked in real time and displayed on a hydrant repair and maintenance dashboard. Reports can be generated on demand to close the loop with LAFD for reported hydrants.

Inoperable hydrants are called into the Trouble Board and crews are dispatched immediately for repair.

Improving Data Sharing between LADWP and LAFD

On March 26, 2025, LADWP and LAFD met to discuss streamlining the inspection, repair, and maintenance workflow for fire hydrants. The following agreements and action items were outlined in this meeting:

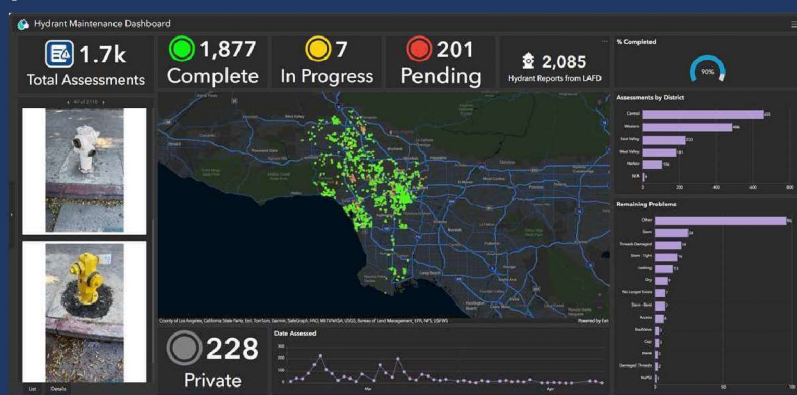
- LAFD will analyze their inspection program to make it more sustainable given current resources
- LAFD and LADWP will continue assessing feasibility of a single database for fire hydrant inspection and repair information
 - Currently, LAFD uses an application called the Fire Inspection Management System (FIMS) to capture inspection results
 - LADWP IT will assess feasibility of a single application that both LAFD and LADWP can access.
 - Both Departments will have their respective IT teams recommend solutions
- Next Meeting is scheduled for week of June 2nd, 2025.

Fire Hydrant Repairs

- LADWP immediately mobilizes on repair and maintenance work of the reported hydrants upon receipt of LAFD's list
- LADWP deployed staff to work exclusively on fire hydrant repairs 6 days a week
- As of May 15th, LADWP repaired 2106 out of 2290 reported hydrants
- LAFD continues providing lists of fire hydrants to be repaired on a weekly basis

Fiscal Impact

- Receiving and filing this report has no fiscal impact
- LADWP continues working with LAFD to automate communication between the departments to provide real time fire hydrant status



Dashboard as of 4/25/25



Questions?