

REPLACEMENT FOR AGENDA ITEM #12

INTRODUCED BY

James Sanchez, Councilman

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COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL

City of Hartford, June 8, 2020

WHEREAS, On March 20th, 2020 Governor Lamont signed an Executive Order asking Connecticut Businesses and Residents to “Stay Safe, Stay Home”, effective Monday, March 23th, 2020; and

WHEREAS, On May 9, 2020 Governor Lamont announced that his administration has released documents detailing phase 1 of Connecticut’s reopening plans to take effect beginning May 20, and

WHEREAS, to limit the community spread of Covid-19 and keep employees and the public safe; and

WHEREAS, Covid-19 is a respiratory illness that can be spread from person to person, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and

WHEREAS, to protect the community from the spread of the virus, people should, avoid close contact, avoid touching their face and wash hands for 20 seconds with soap or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer; and

WHEREAS, on May 18, 2020 Hartford County has 9,050 (1) laboratory confirmed cases, and the City of Hartford has 1,977 (1) confirmed cases which has increased since April; and

WHEREAS, according to Morris Miller CEO of Xenex Disinfection Services hundreds of germicidal ultraviolet lights (UV-C) have been shipped to Italy, Japan, Thailand, Ecuador and Spain, using UV-C to kill microbes, airborne viruses, microorganisms and to help disinfect their facilities; and [<https://www.cnbc.com/video/2020/04/14/xenex-ceo-morris-miller-on-uv-light-disinfection-in-hospitals.html>]

WHEREAS, a study was done on UV-C lights at Duke University Hospital (DUH) , Duke Regional Hospital (DRH) and Duke Raleigh Hospital (DRAL) in North Carolina in 2017; and [<https://www.dukehealth.org/blog/uv-light-helps-duke-hospitals-fight-transmission-of-superbugs>]

WHEREAS, the Duke Health researchers found that UV-C lights being used at their facilities helped disinfect hard-to-reach areas by the emission of light bouncing and reflecting off objects; and

WHEREAS, the light waves kills the pathogens by disrupting their DNA (2); and

WHEREAS, in 2018 Columbia University Irving Medical Center (CUIMC) did research on far ultraviolet C (far-UVC) lights to consider if far UV-C lights do kill airborne flu viruses; and [<https://www.cuimc.columbia.edu/news/can-uv-light-fight-spread-influenza>]

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WHEREAS, CUIMC found that far UV-C reduces the spread of person to person transmission of viruses through the air, by killing the viruses while they are in the air; and

WHEREAS, Metropolitan Transportation Authority in New York City unveiled a pilot program to cleaning buses and subways using UV-Lights to disinfect: and

[<https://abcnews.go.com/US/ultraviolet-light-zap-coronavirus-york-city-subways-buses/story?id=70770382>]

WHEREAS, in Louisiana Justin Hartenstein, Director of Development at the Metairie-based Oracle Lighting created new kind of mask that uses UV light technology to sanitize and disinfect the air around your face, and [<https://www.wvltv.com/article/news/local/jefferson/mask-developed-in-metairie-uses-uv-light-to-stop-coronavirus/289-d31e865e-e9b9-4523-bd0b-de729f84d82e>]

WHEREAS, UV lights have been used for years to sterilize medical equipment and purify water, and

WHEREAS, Magnolia Bakery's in New York will also replace its recessed lighting with special ones that also emit far-UVC; now, therefore be it [<https://nypost.com/2020/05/18/magnolia-bakery-to-fight-coronavirus-with-futuristic-cleanse-portal/>]

RESOLVED, that the City of Hartford's Court of Common Council urges the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Public Works and other departments, in using "existing completed research" of FAR UVC Lighting for an "added extra level" of disinfecting; and be it further

RESOLVED, if implemented, the departments shall safely use FAR UVC lights at all City of Hartford facilities contact surfaces i.e. counters of City Clerk's office, Vital Statistics office, Tax Office, including but not limited to air handling heating and cooling unit systems, etc., and/or for general overnight cleaning purposes, and be it further

RESOLVED, that this FAR UVC technology is not intended to end nor replaces the standard disinfecting practices recognized today; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this FAR UVC light shall not be used in direct contact to a person and/ or animal; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Department of Health and Human Services with the Grants Department locate and appropriate funding for such technology, and be it further

RESOLVED, by implementing this technology all people entering City facilities shall enter with the knowledge, that the City of Hartford added an extra layer of environmental protection from pathogens and viruses.

(1) <https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus>

(2) <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-018-21058-w>

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