



## ***Celebrating Women's History Month!***

Happy Women's History Month! I have had the great fortune to know many phenomenal women in my life – past and present – who inspire and uplift me to reach my full potential. Women's History Month is a celebration of women's contributions to history, culture, and society. The National Women's History Alliance theme for this year's commemoration is **"Women Providing Healing, Promoting Hope."** Throughout the month, I encourage you to recognize and cherish the extraordinary women who have brought healing and hope to your life.

Kicking off the month, my colleagues and I were pleased to approve a resolution recognizing March 6th-12th, 2022 as "Women in Construction Week" in the City of Memphis. Women employed in the construction industry in the United States numbered more than 1 million as of 2021, comprising 11 percent of the construction workforce. Bravo to all the remarkable women in the construction industry across Memphis and beyond.



It was an honor to recognize Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated – where I am a proud member – for its 90th South Eastern Regional Conference. The conference united about 6,000 members from three states (AL, MS, and TN) in Memphis last week. I enjoyed showcasing our delicious restaurants, our rich culture, and Memphis hospitality with my sisters. From a core group of nine, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. has grown into a force of more than 290,000 collegiate members and alumnae, constituting 1,007 chapters nationwide.

## ***Keeping you informed***

As I shared in my last recap, at the onset of Winter Storm Landon, your Memphis City Council stepped right into action listening and working with our districts to get all our communities restored and back to normal as quickly as possible. On last week, MLGW shared its latest update on recovery efforts and improvement plans. Your Memphis City Council is committed to holding local leaders accountable and acting to ensure communities across Memphis continue to flourish for the greater good.

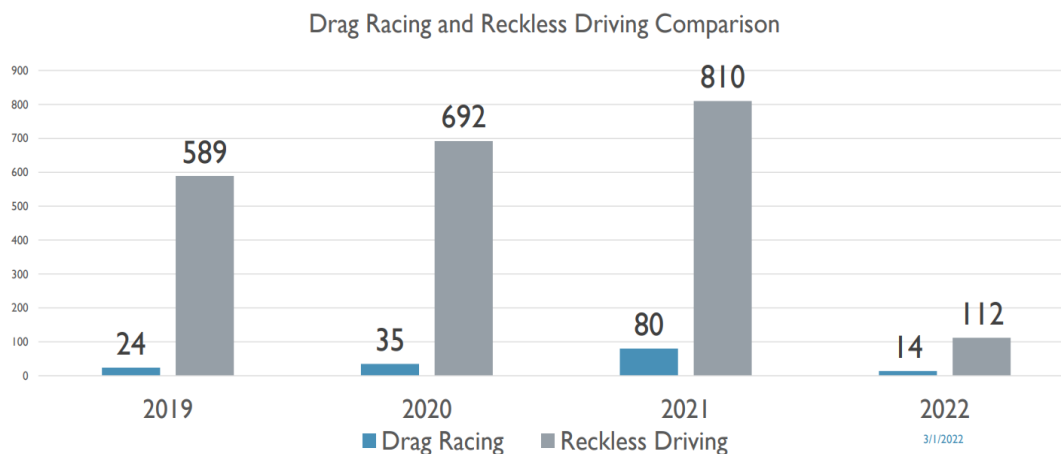
MLGW President JT Young and Memphis Mayor Jim Strickland recently announced the formation of MLGW's "Outage Improvement Advisory Team" to obtain community input regarding options to reduce electrical outages-duration and frequency and to improve associated customer communications. The first meeting should take place in March. A City Councilmember will be appointed to join the advisory team. This is a proactive step towards ensuring Memphis is better prepared for extreme weather events. We are looking forward to reviewing their report and recommendations.

### **Here are key points to be included in MLGW's Improvement Plan:**

- Address data issues in MLGW's outage management system that cause miscoding of customer's outage status
- Improve information provided through MLGW's new text alert system by editing the message scripts
- Rework MLGW's on-line outage map to provide easier access to individual customer outage information
- Utilize existing information systems to "look forward" into the event to provide estimates of event duration and restoration milestone
- Collect better information from field personnel to share estimated time of repairs (ETOR) with customers
- Develop ways to exploit smart meters for outage status to improve data and responses from the outage management system

At our last meeting, our best in blue, the Memphis Police Department (MPD) presented its most recent drag racing and reckless driving data. The MPD shared there has been an increase in charges and arrests since 2019 when there were 24 drag racing incidents resulting in charges and 589 reckless driving charges. In 2021 there were 80 drag racing arrests and 810 for reckless driving. My colleagues and I are committed to working with the MPD as well as working with other law enforcement agencies to combat this problem. Promoting and maintaining public safety continues to be the focus of your Council.

### THE ENFORCEMENT OF DRAG RACING AND RECKLESS DRIVING, IN THE CITY OF MEMPHIS, INCREASED INCREMENTALLY FROM 2019 TO 2021



#### ***A moment of gratitude:***

I am fortunate to serve you each day along with my colleagues working to advance our great city. Stay tuned for future Council updates as we keep you informed regarding the activities taking place here at City Hall. As always, for an archive of meeting recordings, you may visit <https://www.memphistn.gov/government/watch-public-meetings-online/>.



Yours in service,

Jamita Swearngen  
Chairwoman, Memphis City Council  
District 4