The Utilities Commission had a few comments about the Downtown Plan, and had a short discussion on January 15, 2020 to prepare thoughts and comments as feedback.

Ultimately, they voted on the following motion (which passed)

   Motion: to accept comments made by the Commission as stated as the Commission’s formal comments towards the Downtown Plan, and that discussion should include that not just microgrids, but a resilient electrical supply.

Their comments:

- Cost and demand estimates for infrastructure within the plan lack the appropriate context. How the cost estimates, and the demand capacity was determined should be included. The concern is that a developer could point to the report and indicate that from the city’s estimates, additional capacity or work would not be needed, and therefore would not be the responsibility of the developer. They believe it should be included in the plan that the developer will be responsible for any increased capacity needs anticipated by the city through each development review.

- The references to the microgrids and broadband within the plan are not significant enough. The mention of the items does not indicate that they are being properly looked at, and this is of concern to the Commission.