

**COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE**  
Inter-Office Communication

Date: March 5, 2023

To: Marcelia Nicholson, Chairwoman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

From: Joe Lamers, Director, Office of Strategy, Budget & Performance

Subject: From the Project Management Office, Office of Strategy, Budget, and Performance, and the Co-Chairpersons, Milwaukee County Commission on Youth, providing an informational report regarding policy and budgetary advisory recommendations, advancing the county's mission of achieving racial equity, and any other matter deemed necessary to protect and promote the interests of Milwaukee County youth.

File Type: Informational Report

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**REQUEST**

The members of the 2023 Milwaukee County Youth Commission were sworn in virtually in December of 2022 following their confirmation by the Board of Supervisors on December 15, 2022. The Commissioners attended coordinated employee onboarding events on January 11 and 12, 2023, and held their first meeting on Wednesday, January 25, 2023, in the Milwaukee County Board Room. The meeting was preceded by a reception with the Commissioners' families and Milwaukee County leaders, including the Chairwoman, County Executive, and many Supervisors, as well as a ceremonial Oath of Office officiated by The Honorable Judge Carl Ashley. Their second meeting was held on February 22, 2023, and their third meeting is scheduled for March 22, 2023.

The Youth Commission has formed two standing committees and assigned chairs and members of each: the Governance, Finance, and Evaluation Committee; and the Community Engagement and Racial Justice Committee. The Committees will begin to conduct business in April of 2023. One of the first tasks of the inaugural Youth Commission is to craft its own bylaws, which it will do with the support of the Policy and Research Division and Office of Corporation Council. The Youth Commission has four Adult Advisors, appointed by the Chairwoman and County Executive, and will select its fifth Adult Advisor soon. Another initial task of the Commission is to fill the two vacant positions in Districts 8 and 16 to bring the total membership to 20. The operating partner of the Youth Commission is Urban Underground.

All information related to the Milwaukee County Youth Commission is available at [County of Milwaukee | Milwaukee County | Youth Commission](#).

**POLICY**

This update is being provided pursuant to File 22-662, “To modify Chapter 106 of the Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances to reestablish the Milwaukee County Commission on Youth and align its priorities with Milwaukee County’s mission and vision to achieve racial equity...”

In addition, the 2013 Adopted Budget required, “Status updates, reports, and proposed resolutions relative to the work of the Commission on Youth and efforts to collaborate with intergovernmental partners shall be provided for review by the County Board when necessary.”

Further, the 2023 budget included an amendment which stated that “Status updates, reports, and proposed resolutions relative to the work of the Commission on Youth and efforts to collaborate with intergovernmental partners shall be provided for review by the County Board when necessary.”

Wisconsin State Statutes:	N/A
Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances:	Chapter 106
Specific Adopted Budget:	N/A
Specific Adopted Budget Amendment:	N/A
Specific Adopted Capital Project:	N/A

**BACKGROUND**

The resolution to re-establish the Milwaukee County Youth Commission was authored by Chairwoman Nicholson and County Executive David Crowley and co-sponsored by Supervisors Sequanna Taylor, Martin, Clancy, Vincent, and Burgelis. It was passed unanimously by both the Committee on Intergovernmental Relations and the Board of Supervisors in May of 2022.

Related File No’s:	22-662
Associated File No’s (Including Transfer Packets):	N/A
Previous Action Date(s):	5/15/22, 5/26/22, 11/28/22

**ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

The Milwaukee County Youth Commission aligns to the following strategic objectives:

1A: Reflect the full diversity of the County at every level of County government  
*The Youth Commission will increase the diversity of age and life experience at the highest level of Milwaukee County government, providing a valuable perspective that is currently missing from decision-making processes.*

1B: Create and nurture an inclusive culture across County government  
*The Youth Commission will help to make our legislative process more inclusive, especially since young people under the age of 18 are not allowed to participate in the*

*voting process to choose our elected leaders.*

3C: Dismantle barriers to diverse and inclusive communities

*The Youth Commission embodies the diversity of Milwaukee County, bringing together young people who will represent their respective districts, but will get to learn from and interact with their peers from other areas.*

**FISCAL EFFECT**

Costs associated with the implementation of the Milwaukee County Youth Commission have been approved in the 2024 Adopted Budget.

**TERMS**

N/A

**VIRTUAL MEETING INVITES**

Joe Lamers, [Joseph.Lamers@milwaukeecountywi.gov](mailto:Joseph.Lamers@milwaukeecountywi.gov)

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**PREPARED BY:**

Nichole Todd, Project Manager, Project Management Office, Office of Strategy Budget, & Performance

**SUBMITTED BY:**

JOSEPH LAMERS

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Joe Lamers  
Director, Office of Strategy, Budget, & Performance

**ATTACHMENTS:**

[Milwaukee County Resolution/Ordinance 22-662 Re-establishment of the Youth Commission](#)

[Milwaukee County - Meeting of Committee on Intergovernmental Relations on 5/17/2022 at 1:30 PM \(legistar.com\)](#)

[Milwaukee County - Meeting of Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors on 5/26/2022 at 9:30 AM \(legistar.com\)](#)

cc: Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors  
Janelle M. Jensen, Legislative Services Division Manager, Office of the County Clerk