

**COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE**  
Inter-Office Communication

Date: July 6, 2022

To: Marcelia Nicholson, Chairwoman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors  
Sequanna Taylor, Chairwoman, Committee on Intergovernmental Relations

From: Emily Petersen, Government Affairs Liaison, County Board of Supervisors

Subject: File No. 22-16 – July Report

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**Background**

Pursuant to [File No. 22-16](#), this update is being provided in response to the request that the Wisconsin Counties Association provide information “regarding conditions for continued membership.” Information contained in this report was provided by the Wisconsin Counties Association.

***WCA Legislative Initiatives***

- In June, WCA joined the Milwaukee County Executive’s Office in Washington, D.C. to advocate for Milwaukee County earmarks, securing nearly \$20 million in projects for inclusion in the upcoming appropriations bill.
- The July issue of *Wisconsin Counties* magazine was devoted to transit operations and included Milwaukee County on the magazine cover. A priority for WCA in the upcoming 2023-25 state budget will be to work with Milwaukee County to restore transit cuts included in the current state biennial budget.
- Included in the upcoming WCA Legislative Agenda will be a new platform position advocating for counties to be provided the ability to implement a sales tax beyond the current 0.5%. This is consistent with Milwaukee County’s legislative initiative seeking an increased sales tax.
- WCA is prioritizing in the next budget additional youth aids funding that will assist Milwaukee County in funding juvenile corrections.
- WCA and Forward Analytics (WCA’s research arm) worked with Milwaukee County on a statewide research report in early 2021 detailing the funding challenges of Wisconsin county governments.
- In May, WCA President & CEO Mark O’Connell joined Chairwoman Nicholson and county staff in Milwaukee to discuss Milwaukee County’s legislative priorities.
- WCA has coordinated and joined Milwaukee County for meetings with state legislative leaders.

### ***WCA Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Initiatives (DEI)***

- WCA is working closely with Milwaukee County on regional meetings to discuss DEI initiatives (see attached). These meetings will be led by Chairwoman Nicholson, Brown County Executive Troy Streckenbach, and WCA.
- WCA devoted its February 2022 *Wisconsin Counties* magazine to DEI efforts. Included in the magazine were highlights of Milwaukee County initiatives.
- The 2022 WCA Annual Conference will include two concurrent sessions specifically covering DEI-related topics.

### ***Other WCA/Milwaukee Initiatives***

- WCA is working with financial experts from throughout the country on a securitization program counties can voluntarily join related to the opioid distributor settlement.
- The WCA Legislative Exchange in 2022 included a panel discussion with Mark O'Connell, WisDOT Secretary Craig Thompson, and County Executive David Crowley.
- WCA attended the NACo Legislative Conference in 2022 and attended congressional hill visits with Milwaukee County representatives.
- Given the possible preemption on Chinese-made drones, WCA recently completed a drone survey and is in the process of exploring a drone replacement program for counties and municipalities.
- WCA nominated Milwaukee County Executive David Crowley for the NACo County Leadership Institute in Washington, D.C.

cc: Janelle M. Jensen, Legislative Services Division Manager, Office of the County Clerk  
Steve Cady, Director, Research Services Division

## DEI REGIONAL MEETINGS

August 2022

Dates, times and locations vary by region.

Each meeting is scheduled to last approximately two hours.

### AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Introductions
3. Why Regional DEI Meetings – Goals and Objectives  
*Sarah Diedrick-Kasdorf, Director of Outreach & Member Engagement or Kyle Christianson, Vice President of Government Affairs*
4. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Leaders Presentation  
*Troy Streckenbach, Brown County Executive; Marcella Nicholson, Chair, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors; Regional Leaders*
5. Question and Answer Session
6. Small Group Discussion/Information Sharing
7. Wrap Up/Final Thoughts
8. Adjourn

## 2022 DEI REGIONAL MEETING SCHEDULE

<b>WCA District</b>	<b>Date/Location</b>	<b>Counties in District</b>
Northwest	Thursday, August 11, 2022 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Flat Creek Lodge 10290 WI-27 Hayward, WI	Ashland, Bayfield, Burnett, Douglas, Iron, Polk, Price, Rusk, Sawyer, Taylor and Washburn
West Central	Thursday, August 11, 2022 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Holiday Inn Eau Claire South 4751 Owen Ayres Court Eau Claire, WI	Barron, Chippewa, Clark, Dunn, Eau Claire, Pepin, Pierce and St. Croix
Western	Monday, August 15, 2022 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Three Bears Resort 701 Yogi Circle Warrens, WI	Adams, Buffalo, Jackson, Juneau, La Crosse, Marquette, Monroe, Trempealeau and Vernon
Southern	Monday, August 15, 2022 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Glacier Canyon Conference Center 45 Hillman Road Wisconsin Dells, WI	Columbia, Crawford, Dane, Dodge, Grant, Green, Green Lake, Iowa, Jefferson, Lafayette, Richland, Rock and Sauk
Southeast	Tuesday, August 16, 2022 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. The Ingleside Hotel 2810 Golf Road Pewaukee, WI	Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Walworth, Washington and Waukesha
North Central	Thursday, August 25, 2022 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Fairfield Inn by Marriott 7100 Stone Ridge Drive Weston, WI	Florence, Forest, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Marinette, Menominee, Oconto, Oneida, Portage, Shawano, Vilas, Waupaca, Waushara and Wood
East Central	Thursday, August 25, 2022 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Hilton Appleton Paper Valley 333 West College Avenue Appleton, WI	Brown, Calumet, Door, Fond du Lac, Kewaunee, Manitowoc, Outagamie, Sheboygan and Winnebago