



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Chris Abele

MILWAUKEE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

DATE: April 19, 2017

TO: The Honorable Milwaukee Board of Supervisors

FROM: Chris Abele, Milwaukee County Executive

RE: County Board File No. 16-726 on authorizing the Director of the Office on African American Affairs to create Community Restoration Centers in underserved areas

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The Office on African American Affairs needs to engage in robust outreach with the community in order to be successful and I appreciate the Board's continued support of the mission of this office. I look forward to collaborating with Board members on ways to enhance our community engagement.

I am working with a committee of community leaders to select a new Director for the office. Once appointed and confirmed, this individual will oversee all aspects of the office, including community engagement. When the Board releases funding for the Community Engagement Coordinator position that I proposed for the 2017 budget, that individual will be charged with moving forward the office's engagement work, including potential work on Community Restoration Centers. I look forward to OAAA having dedicated staff for this critical aspect of the office.

In the meantime, we will explore the concept of Community Restoration Centers with an eye toward maximizing value for community residents and building upon rather than duplicating existing community resources. OAAA will seek to adhere to the stated purposes of the resolution as much as it can while acknowledging that there is currently no budget dedicated for this specific work.