City of Milwaukee

Equity Impact Statement

1. Describe the proposed ordinance or resolution. File number: _____

2023 Wisconsin Act 12 creates 66.1105(2)(f), Wis. Stats., which prohibits the use of tax incremental district funding for the development or construction of the Milwaukee Streetcar.

2. Identify the anticipated equity impacts, if any, of this proposal.

The construction of additional streetcar lines will create jobs, provide a high quality transportation option to City residents and visitors, increase property values and spur additional economic development throughout the City.
Tax incremental financing allows the City to invest in infrastructure without relying on other more costly sources of funding. It also encourages private investment and facilitates improvements in areas of the City where it is otherwise not financially viable to do so.
Prohibiting the use of tax incremental districts to expand the streetcar will concentrate the benefits of the system in the downtown area and deprive other areas of the City of the systems benefits.
The expansion of electrified transportation options could help reduce the impacts of climate change

3. Identify which minority groups, if any, may be negatively or positively impacted by the proposal.

The eventual expansion of the streetcar system was intended to be city-wide. However, the next two stages of the system were anticipated to be north of downtown into Bronzveille, a largely African American neighborhood and south of downtown through Walker's Point, providing streetcar access to a largely Hispanic neighborhood.

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4. Describe any engagement efforts with minority communities potentially impacted by the proposal.

This is a new, state-mandated effort, not a City-led proposal, therefore there has been no organized engagement of minority communities to date.

5. Describe how any anticipated equity impacts of the proposal will be documented or evaluated.

The City could document the number of jobs with walking distance of the Bronzeville and Walker's Point neighborhoods.

The City could monitor the need for public transportation systems like the streetcar by tracking the number of vehicles registered in the City.

6. Describe strategies that will be used, if any, to mitigate any anticipated equity impacts.

The City could use other funding sources to develop or construct streetcar extensions.

The City could construct additional pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure to help increase safety and facilitate the transportation needs of residents who do not have access to cars.

Name: **Kathleen Brengosz - Fiscal Planning Specialist**

Signature:

Date: **6/22/2023**