City of Milwaukee

Equity Impact Statement

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

2023 Wisconsin Act 12 creates s. 62.90(1), Wis. Stats., which limits total spending for cultural or entertainment matters to 5% of the total City budget.

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

The new law limits the total amount of the City's spending for cultural or entertainment matters or involving partnerships with non-profit groups to not more than 5% of the total City budget. This restriction is likely to diminish the amount of City support for arts organizations, public art installations and creative spaces which add value to neighborhoods and help residents engage with their community. These groups and organizations are minority-run or have primarily minority participants.

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

The language restricting City funding for "cultural or entertainment matters" or "involving partnerships with non-profit groups" is rather ambiguous and could have sweeping impacts, which cannot be determined at this time. However, the restriction is likely to adversely impact the amount of City support for underrepresented minority cultural groups, --- African-American, Hispanic, Asian-American, etc., leading to a possible decline in City-sponsored of City-organized activities and events.

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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 efforts of requiring that not more than 5% of the City budget be expended for cultural or entertainment purposes can be evaluated by comparing total spending for such purposes prior to the new requirement and after the new requirement.

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

As indicated in Item 4, to mitigate any anticipated equity impacts, the City may need to increase its efforts to see alternative funding sources from the members of the public and the private sector as well as non-profit organizations.

Name: **Teodros W. Medhin**

Signature:

Date: **6/20/2023**