



Fire Department

Aaron Lipski
Chief

Joshua Parish
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July 9, 2026

To the Honorable
Finance and Personnel Committee
Common Council
City of Milwaukee

Dear Committee Members:

The Milwaukee Fire Department is very interested in starting a Youth Carpenter Apprentice Program in the Construction and Maintenance Division. This would entail having high school students with carpentry interest and some experience begin a two-year path which can lead them to full-time City employment. The Youth Carpenter Apprentices would also receive mentorship and training to complete construction tasks in line with Wisconsin Youth Apprenticeship Competencies.

We are therefore requesting that two half-time, non-benefit Youth Carpenter Apprentice positions be created in the Construction and Maintenance Division. The hours would vary from part-time during the school year (maximum of 20 hours) to full-time during the summer, with a minimum of 450 hours in year one, and 450 hours in year two, or a total of 900 hours over the two-year program. We anticipate hiring one Youth Carpenter Apprentice this fall. After this initial year, we would always have one first-year apprentice and one second-year apprentice in the program, so a continuous yearly recruitment would need to be in effect. Enclosed are a job description and a fiscal note.

If this request is approved, the following change is needed in the Positions Ordinance:

In the Fire Department, Support Bureau, Construction and Maintenance Division,
add two half-time positions of "Youth Carpenter Apprentice."

Sincerely,



AARON LIPSKI
Chief

AL/JP/jlb
Enclosures
Budget\Addition of 2 Youth Carpenter Apprentice Positions 0726