

Lee, Chris

From: King, Molly
Sent: Friday, January 13, 2023 4:26 PM
To: Dimitrijevic, Marina; Spiker, Scott; Murphy, Michael (Alderman); Coggs, Milele; Chambers, Mark
Cc: McHenry, Arlisia; DeSiato, Nick; Knapp2, Luke; Norfolk, Tea; Lee, Chris; Perez, Jose
Subject: FW: Potential to Add MPS to City-County Back Office Service Sharing Project

Good Afternoon Finance and Personnel Committee Members,

As requested, I've reached out to both Rob Henken from the Wisconsin Policy Forum (WPF) and Dr. Posley at Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS). Please see Mr. Henken's response below – he notes that including MPS in the study would add both time and cost and would likely be done in the latter stages of the study.

In my conversations with both Dr. Posley and Board President Bob Peterson, they told me that they would like the City and County to proceed with the study as-is, but asked to be looped in by the administration and WPF if any opportunities for efficiency that can include MPS are identified. They thank the committee members for considering them and look forward to seeing the study's findings.

Thank you all for your work on this file. We appreciate your support and look forward to continuing to work with you.

Respectfully,

Molly King | Policy Director

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From: Rob Henken <rhenken@wispolicyforum.org>

Sent: Friday, January 13, 2023 3:06 PM

To: King, Molly <mcking@milwaukee.gov>

Subject: Potential to Add MPS to City-County Back Office Service Sharing Project

Good afternoon, Molly. I wanted to take this opportunity to share my thoughts on the notion of adding the Milwaukee Public Schools to the Milwaukee city-county back office service sharing research project as was suggested at the Finance and Personnel Committee meeting earlier this week.

First, I would note that conceptually, the idea of including MPS makes lots of sense, as there is indeed some commonality between certain administrative functions provided by all three governments. However, practically, expanding the study in this fashion could add considerable time as well as some cost. Also, as we have discussed since the first time the city, county, and WPF met to discuss this project, the idea here was to start with a manageable array of services and players and try to identify some administrative areas where consolidation was deemed to be most viable and could be implemented relatively quickly and effectively. Such

"successes" could then be used as stepping stones to consider other potential areas of collaboration or consolidation between the two governments and perhaps including other governments.

Consequently, my strong recommendation is that if MPS is to be included, then such inclusion be considered after the initial scan of city and county administrative services is conducted and the 4-6 promising areas are identified for further analysis and implementation planning. At that time, consideration could be given as to whether MPS would be a logical additional partner for each of the promising areas and, if so, then they could be approached for inclusion. For each individual area in which MPS would be included, I would estimate that both the time required to complete the analysis and the cost would need to increase by about 50%. So, for example, if city, county, and MPS leaders wanted us to consider a joint procurement bureau that would serve all three governments, then instead of taking three months to complete the analysis for a city-county bureau, it might take 4.5 months (this is all a rough estimate). It is more difficult for me to estimate any added cost as we did not prepare our cost estimate in this fashion, but I would imagine it would not be above \$5,000-\$6,000 for each area.

If, instead, MPS were to be included from the inception of the project, then I would similarly estimate that the overall project timeline of 12-14 months and the project cost of \$48,600 would increase by 50% (to 18-21 months and roughly \$73,000). However, it is important to understand that the initial scan would then take at least 4.5 to 6 months if it were to include all three governments, which means our ability to then complete implementation plans for any specific areas likely would stretch well beyond 2024 budget deliberations. Also, we would be relying heavily on MPS staff to participate in meetings and collect and share data, and that could push the timeline back even further if their capacity to assist is more limited than that of the city and county (and it also must be recognized that MPS' 2024 budget deliberations begin in May, thus possibly limiting their availability almost immediately).

I hope this is helpful and please let me know if I can provide any additional information.

Sincerely,

Rob

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