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July 19, 2016

Milele A. Coggs, Chairwoman
Finance and Personnel Committee
Milwaukee Common Council
City Hall, Room 205
200 East Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Via email and fax to 414-286-3456

RE: File # 160381

Dear Chairwoman Coggs,

The Milwaukee Police Department is requesting an amendment to the 2016 Positions Ordinance to add the position of Director of Planning to the Office of Management and Planning (OMAP). In Chief Edward Flynn's communication of June 22, 2016 he describes the OMAP's functions and some of its current projects.

The Fire and Police Commission's agenda for its July 14, 2016 executive session includes item II: Strategy for Crime Prevention A. Office of Management and Budget. From the agenda it does not appear that the FPC discussed this new position on July 14.

I have some questions related to OMAP and the proposed position. Please post this letter to File # 160381 on milwaukee.legistar.com.

Chief Flynn gave a brief presentation at the FPC's February 18, 2016 meeting on his participation in the President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing. He presented a chart indicating MPD's degree of compliance with the recommendations of the Task Force. Recommendation 1.6 reads as follows: "Law enforcement agencies should consider the potential damage to public trust when implementing crime fighting strategies." The Task Force gives an action item (1.6.1) following this recommendation. It reads as follows: "Research conducted to evaluate the effectiveness of crime fighting strategies should specifically look at the potential for collateral damage of any given strategy on community trust and legitimacy." On Chief Flynn's chart in the status column for this action item it reads "not currently being done." Has the action item been done since February?

On behalf of the ACLU of Wisconsin, I request that you determine the status of action item 1.6.1. If the research is done, what are the results? If it is not done, I respectfully request you seek the answers to the following questions:

1. Why isn't it done?
2. Is such research within the scope of OMAP's functions?
3. Will the proposed Director of Planning have the ability to conduct or oversee such research on collateral damage?

4. Is OMAP or the FPC more appropriate to research this issue?
5. Will the FPC, the Common Council and the public have access to the research it is when done?

Finally, I urge you to mandate that among the minimum essential qualifications for the position of Director of Planning the job description include an understanding and appreciation for the civil liberties and civil rights of all people.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chris Ahmuty", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Chris Ahmuty

cc: President Hamilton
Committee members
Mary Nell Regan, FPC
Mark Stanmeyer, MPD