

March 5, 2026

Dear Members of the Milwaukee Common Council,

I am writing to offer my strong support for the appointment of Danielle A. Rodriguez as Administration Director for the City of Milwaukee's Department of Administration.

I have had the privilege of working with Ms. Rodriguez through Marquette University's Executive Education programs, most recently as she completed the Elevate Women Leaders program in partnership with TEMPO. Throughout her participation, she consistently distinguished herself as a strategic thinker, a collaborative partner, and a leader who builds trust and respect across teams and organizations.

Ms. Rodriguez exemplifies what it means to be a leader of leaders. Her work within the Department of Public Works has demonstrated her ability to guide complex operations while fostering alignment among diverse groups and senior-level professionals. She leads with clarity, integrity, and a steady commitment to public service. These qualities are essential for supporting and overseeing leaders in the City's key administrative divisions.

Her leadership style is rooted in partnership and collaboration. Ms. Rodriguez has shown exceptional ability to build strong relationships with community stakeholders, higher education institutions such as Marquette, and leadership networks such as TEMPO. She approaches challenges with a balanced perspective, seeks input from those around her, and elevates the strengths of the teams she leads.

Ms. Rodriguez is widely respected in City departments and across the broader Milwaukee community. Her professionalism, sound judgment, and dedication to the City's mission reflect the qualities that this cabinet-level role requires.

For these reasons, I am confident that she will bring outstanding leadership to the Department of Administration and that she will serve the City of Milwaukee with distinction.

Thank you for your consideration.

Warm regards,



James A. Orheim
Program Director
Executive Education and Professional Development
Marquette University College of Business Administration