

CITY OF MILWAUKEE

City Hall, 200 E. Wells Street, Milwaukee, WI 53202 • [www.city.milwaukee.gov](http://www.city.milwaukee.gov)

September 23, 2014

The Honorable,  
Members of the Milwaukee Common Council

Re: Investigation of the Circumstances relating to a 2015 Community Development Block Grant Funding Proposal to the Community Advocates, Inc. for the One Summer Plus Pilot Program.

Honorable Members:

Provided herein are the findings of the investigation of the Common Council's Community and Economic Development Committee on the circumstances relating to a proposed amendment of the Year 2015 Community Development Block Grant Funding Allocation Plan to provide funding to Community Advocates, Inc. for the One Summer Plus Pilot Program.

Based on its investigation, the Committee has determined the following:

1. The reporting of statements attributed to Andi Elliot, Chief Executive Office of Community Advocates, Inc., in the August 10, 2014, article by Georgia Pabst, "Milwaukee leaders head to Chicago to visit program for at-risk youth," were factually incorrect in that the conversation reported in the article between Andi Elliot and Ald. Joe Davis, Sr. had not occurred. This is based on Ms. Elliot's sworn testimony.
2. The Office of the Mayor, separately and through the Department of Administration—Office of Community Development Block Grants Administration, has established an internal policy of actively opposing actions of the Common Council that increase the amount or proportion of federal Community Development Block Grant funding allocated to community-based organizations. This is based on the sworn testimony of Mr. Clifton Crump and Mr. Steven Mahan.
3. There is reasonable cause to believe that the Office of the Mayor, separately and through the Department of Administration—Office of Community Development Block Grants Administration, engages in a pattern or practice of subordinating the role of the Common Council, and by extension, the role of the citizens of the city of Milwaukee, in determining the highest and best use of federal Community Development Block Grant funding.


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The Committee strongly recommends that the Office of the Mayor and the Department of Administration—Office of Community Development Block Grants Administration give the findings of this investigation careful consideration and assist in facilitating a dialogue to expeditiously and cooperatively address the systemic deficiencies identified in the funding allocation process.

The Committee expresses its appreciation for the cooperation that Community Advocates, Inc. extended to the Committee throughout the investigation.

Sincerely,



Ald. Joe Davis, Sr.  
Chairman