EVAN C. GOYKE City Attorney

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May 6, 2025

Mr. Nick Crneckly 11515 West Orchard Street, Apt. H West Allis, WI 53214-5525

RE: C.I. File No. 1029-2025-444

Communication from NICK CRNECKLY

Dear Mr. Crneckly:

The City of Milwaukee is in receipt of the claim for damages incurred as a result of a defect in a sidewalk or street at or near the 7900 block of N. 91<sup>st</sup> Street, on February 16, 2025.

The City takes every report of defective streets or sidewalks seriously. Upon notice of any defect the Department of Public Works will investigate, and/or patch, repair or barricade known hazards in its discretion. However, state law relative to roadway defects changed significantly following the adoption of 2011 Wisconsin Act 132. Under current state law, municipalities are only liable for known defects that the municipality has failed to timely repair. Generally, the City is not liable for damage related to roadway defects.

City records indicated that on February 16, 2025, the City received notice of a hazard in the roadway at this location and made the necessary repairs on February 18, 2025. Because the repairs were made within a reasonable amount of time upon notification of the problem, and the City's discretionary immunity, the City is not liable for your damages.

KATHRYN Z. BLOCK THOMAS D. MILLER PETER J. BLOCK PATRICK J. MCCLAIN ANDREA I. FOWLER **JOANNA FRACZEK** HANNAH R. JAHN MEIGHAN M. ANGER ALEXANDER R. CARSON **BENJAMIN J. ROOVERS GREGORY P. KRUSE** ALEX T. MUELLER **ALEXANDER D. COSSI** KATHERINE A. HEADLEY **SHEILA THOBANI** STACY J. MILLER JORDAN M. SCHETTLE THERESA A. MONTAG **ALEXANDER E. FOUNDOS** TRAVIS J. GRESHAM KYLE W. BAILEY JOSEPH M. DOBBS WILLIAM K. HOTCHKISS **CLINT B. MUCHE** TYLER M. HELSEL **ZACHARY A. HATFIELD MEGHAN C. MCCABE** CYNTHIA HARRIS ORTEGA **OLUWASEUN CHRIS IBITOYE KEVIN P. TODT** NATHANIEL E. ADAMSON **JUSTIN J. DREIKOSEN Assistant City Attorneys** 



Mr. Nick Crneckly May 6, 2025 Page Two

If you wish to appeal this decision, you may do so by sending a written statement requesting a hearing within 21 days of the postmarked date of this letter to the Milwaukee City Clerk, 200 East Wells Street, Room 205, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202. Please include a photocopy of this letter's envelope, showing the postmark, and retain the original in the event further proof is needed.

Very truly yours,

EVAN C. GOYKE

City Attorney

PATRICIA KLOSIEWSKI

Investigator Adjuster

ECG/PK/cdr

1029-2025-444/297606

June 2, 2025

City Attorney Milwaukee City Hall Ste 800 200 E. Wells St. Milwaukee, WI 53202-3551

RE: C.I File No. 1029-2025-444

Dear City Attorney,

I received communication from your office regarding my request for reimbursement for vehicle damage that occurred on Feb 16, 2025. My request has initially been denied and I would like to request an appeal to the decision. I am however unable to attend in person if that is necessary as I have recently started a new position and am unable to take any time off. I will make my statement below if this will be sufficient.

In the communication, reference is made to a state law that states municipalities are only liable if the repair is not made in a timely manner. It also states that the City was made aware of the pothole on Feb 16, 2025 and a repair was made on Feb 18, 2025. My issue with the denial of my claim is that I was the one who reported the issue to the City AFTER the damage was already done to my vehicle. Before the 16<sup>th</sup>, the City was NOT aware of the issue. Am I basically being penalized for reporting the issue through the MKE Mobile App? If I did not report the pothole after the damage was caused, would the outcome of my initial request been different? Also, for note, when I went into the app to begin making my report, I did notice that there was no previous, outstanding, report of the pothole, so it was not reported until I submitted my report after hitting the pothole and having the damage occur.

I see on Common Council meeting minutes, communication from City residents requesting reimbursements for property damage that have a much greater monetary value, sometimes in the thousands of dollars and they are approved. My request is for a small fraction of that, only \$150. I consider myself lucky that the damage was only what it was, as it could have been much more costly. I basically feel as though I am being punished for doing the right thing by reporting an issue that, if not made aware of, could have caused a lot more damage to other travelers in the area at the time.

I kindly ask the City to reconsider its decision.

Nick Crneckiv

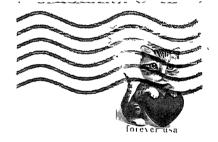
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Mr. Nick Crneckly 11515 West Orchard Street, Apt. H West Allis, WI 53214-5525

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