

Polanco (Urtiz), Joanna

From: Bauman, Robert
Sent: Wednesday, July 30, 2025 4:24 PM
To: Polanco (Urtiz), Joanna
Subject: Fwd: Water street safety

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Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Crump, Clifton" <Clifton.Crump2@milwaukee.gov>
Date: July 30, 2025 at 3:35:03 PM CDT
To: "Spiker, Scott" <Scott.Spiker@milwaukee.gov>, "Bauman, Robert" <rjbauma@milwaukee.gov>, "Perez, Jose" <JoseG.Perez@milwaukee.gov>
Cc: "DeLessio-Parson, Ax" <Axdp@milwaukee.gov>, "Litscher, Jarrett" <Jarrett.Litscher@milwaukee.gov>
Subject: RE: Water street safety

Hello All,

I think short term MPD has made the decision to flood the area with more officers (which is one option). Long term, given the lack of proactive vision shown today by the department, I think the council should consider commissioning a study regarding security/ threat analysis for the downtown entertainment district that includes resident feedback (especially businesses and property owners that live in this areas). It would be done just like a neighborhood plan that's typically led by DCD, but in this case...maybe it's DCD, MPD and DPW guiding the process along with the consultant that wins the RFP (maybe split into the four security zones discussed today). Feels like we police like it is 1995, but it's 2025. The lack of critical planning, to known upcoming events, is astounding. Oh, one other thing, maybe MPD gets out of the business of policing private and semi-private/ public events. MPD can assist only if staff is available, not to the detriment of policing the city as a whole. Policing public spaces is number one...any service provided after that should be based on that being intact.

My 2 cents,
Clifton

From: Spiker, Scott <Scott.Spiker@milwaukee.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, July 30, 2025 2:01 PM
To: Bauman, Robert <rjbauma@milwaukee.gov>; Perez, Jose <JoseG.Perez@milwaukee.gov>
Cc: DeLessio-Parson, Ax <Axdp@milwaukee.gov>; Crump, Clifton <Clifton.Crump2@milwaukee.gov>; Litscher, Jarrett <Jarrett.Litscher@milwaukee.gov>; Polanco (Urtiz), Joanna <jpolan@milwaukee.gov>
Subject: FW: Water street safety

Gentlemen: Please see the concise analysis by the constituent below.

Joanna: Could you please add his email to the communication file we heard this morning?

Alderman Scott Spiker

City of Milwaukee
District 13, The Garden District
Desk: 414.286.8537
Cell: 414.708.1884
Scott.Spiker@milwaukee.gov

From: Spiker, Scott
Sent: Wednesday, July 30, 2025 12:49 PM
To:
Cc: Litscher, Jarrett <Jarrett.Litscher@milwaukee.gov>
Subject: RE: Water street safety

Hi, ____.

Thanks for the really helpful feedback. I appreciate you sharing it, especially given your background [...].

I know we've talked before, but could you provide your address for our records? I'll take out your identifying information and share your ideas with the other alders involved and add it to this file.

I think #1 is what will happen in the short term.

As far as #2 goes, MPD hemmed and hawed quite a bit on this, but they did mention some legitimate concerns. Without a natural barrier, like a river or a lake, this will be difficult unless you expand the boundaries significantly. But it's an idea worth exploring, and one where it's worth looking into what other cities are doing/have done.

I'm not sure we could do #3 without infringing on the existing property rights of bar/nightclub owners who have licenses (and, hence, property rights) that currently allow them to extend their activities beyond midnight. Then there are the additional issues of "why let the bad behavior of the few ruin things for everyone else" and "won't this just displace the nonsense to another location outside of the downtown entertainment district."

Alderman Scott Spiker

City of Milwaukee
District 13, The Garden District
Desk: 414.286.8537
Cell: 414.708.1884
Scott.Spiker@milwaukee.gov

From:
Sent: Wednesday, July 30, 2025 12:39 PM
To: Spiker, Scott <Scott.Spiker@milwaukee.gov>
Subject: Water street safety

Hello, I am a constituent [a law enforcement officer familiar with the area in a past role].

What to do? I see only three actionable solutions. You could flood the zone with officers on weekends. We did that in the past. I remember those overtime opportunities back in the day. That works if the city is willing to pay the overtime and reduce the presence of officers in

other parts of the city. Maybe the MCSO could contribute squads and deputies? Would the bar owners be willing to pay a sort of "safety assessment" to fund those efforts?

Second, reduce access to the area. I don't know how that could be done on Water St. The Deer District perhaps, because the river acts as a boundry, MLK could be closed to traffic, with State and Juneau acting as north and south boundries.

Third, and most radically, close the downtown bars at midnight. People will be less intoxicated, and more likely to disperse to an area of the city they can drink until the traditional bar time.

Good luck. I look forward to seeing how city government addresses this.