



Wisconsin Department of Corrections

Governor Tony Evers | Secretary Kevin A. Carr

To: DOA

From: Paulina Gutiérrez, Legislative Advisor, Department of Corrections (DOC)

Date: November 30, 2022

RE: Overview of public engagement for DOC's proposed site of the new secure youth facility

Since announcing the proposed location of 7930 West Clinton Avenue in Milwaukee for DOC's new secure youth facility, the agency has committed to keeping the public informed and providing a variety of opportunities to gather input, answer questions and address any concerns.

In the spring of 2022, the legislature finally passed Act 252 which authorized the necessary funding for us to move forward on a plan. The law also added an unprecedented requirement of seeking local government support of the process before actually engaging the public. While the resolution file #220553 passed in August 2022, it was made clear that the process of public engagement and local decision-making was still expected.

Understanding that this decision would have historic implications, the state committed to moving through the city plan commission and zoning, development, and neighborhood committee process to ensure that the public had multiple opportunities to testify and comment on our proposal. Along with the DOC's commitment to the local process, the agency also participated in and planned several public engagement sessions.

Soon after the announcement of the selected site, Senator Lena Taylor, the jurisdictional state senator, coordinated and hosted three meetings with key stakeholders in her district and invited DOC to participate in those meetings with her constituents. She led presentations regarding the history of Act 185 and the process for the site selection. Her meetings also allowed time for public comments and questions. Below is a summary of her meetings.

- Tuesday, September 6, 2022 1pm, Virtual Teams Meeting
 - Meet and Greet with leadership at the Havenwoods Neighborhood Partnership (formally known as Havenwoods Economic Development Corporation)
 - Attendees
 - Senator Lena Taylor
 - DOC Secretary Kevin Carr
 - Paulina Gutiérrez, Legislative Advisor, DOC
 - Zach Madden, Legislative Affairs Director, Office of the Governor
 - Stephanie Harling, Executive Director, Havenwoods Neighborhood Partnership

Liz Hammer, Community Organizer, Havenwoods Neighborhood Partnership

- Thursday, September 8, 2022 12:30pm, Mr. B's Lounge, 8617 West. Brown Deer Road
 - Approximately 60 attendees
 - Local Businesses and Community Member meeting with the Granville Business Improvement District
 - Sen. Taylor took questions and comments specifically from the local businesses and community residents that attended
 - Panelists
 - Senator Lena Taylor
 - Representative Dora Drake
 - Representative LaKeisha Myers
 - DOC Secretary Kevin Carr
 - Zach Madden, Legislative Affairs Director, Office of the Governor

- Wednesday, September 28, 2022 6:00pm, Abundant Faith Church, 7830 West Good Hope Road
 - Approximately 150 attendees
 - Sen. Taylor took public comments and registered attendees that were in support, against, or neutral
 - 46 people registered to speak: 17 in favor, 26 against, 3 for information only, and additional 3 people spoke who did not register, of which 2 were in favor and 1 was against.
 - Panelists & Speakers
 - Senator Lena Taylor
 - Representative Dora Drake
 - Representative LaKeisha Myers
 - County Supervisor Deanna Alexander
 - DOC Secretary Kevin Carr
 - Lance Horozewski, Assistant Administrator, DOC Division of Juvenile Corrections
 - Deonte Cottingham, EXPO

The DOC facilitated three Community Input Gathering sessions, two on Wednesday November 16th and one on Saturday, November 19th. As part of the requirements in 2019 Act 8, the DOC formally noticed these public meetings on Tuesday, November 8th. These sessions contained three different stations: 1) building design, 2) operations & staffing, and 3) programming & youth justice. At these stations, the public could engage directly with a subject matter expert on the specific topic. In addition to written testimony from attendees, each station had a notetaker who tracked comments and concerns to be submitted to DOC and the City for review. Regarding the notetaking – the DOC relied on volunteer staff to facilitate and note-take during the sessions which involved active discussions between the community and subject matter experts. In other instances, participants requested that note takers transcribe verbal testimony. Volunteer staff did their best to track verbal interactions and capture the message from community participants and also interactions between subject matter experts and

residents. Attached is a copy of the flyer that was shared with key stakeholders, local state legislators, the entire common council and city clerk. Also attached is a summary of public comments, concerns, and questions. The questions and concerns that were recorded were responded to during the sessions. The summary provides only comments from community participants. DOC Secretary Kevin Carr attended all three sessions, along with representatives from the building design team, the Division of Juvenile Corrections and the Department of Children & Families.

- Community Input Gathering Sessions
 - Approximately 80 attendees over a three-day period
 - Wednesday, November 16th, 9am to noon, Milwaukee Police Academy
 - Wednesday, November 16th, 5pm to 8pm, Milwaukee Police Academy
 - Saturday, November 19th, 10am to noon, Milwaukee Police Academy

In addition to the meetings above, the DOC is also required to complete a public meeting as part of the environmental assessment process. This public meeting is being led by an environmental consultant who will conduct a presentation on their findings and then take public comment.

- Wednesday, December 7th, 6pm to 8pm, Milwaukee Safety Academy

As part of the local zoning process, the City is also holding several official public hearings, which are listed below. The public will have an opportunity to comment at these public hearings, as well.

- Wednesday, December 7th, Granville Development Advisory Committee
- Monday, December 12th, City Plan Commission
- January 2022, Zoning, Neighborhood, & Development Committee for the Common Council