Thank You for Engaging in the Facial Recognition Technology Discussion

The City of Milwaukee Equal Rights Commission (ERC) extends sincere thanks to all who participated in the public meeting held on June 18, 2025, and contributed to the important conversation regarding the Milwaukee Police Department's potential use of facial recognition technology (FRT)—a tool that uses biometric software to match images of faces from video, photos, or live camera feeds against databases to identify individuals.

The Equal Rights Commission is deeply mindful of our role and scope under Chapter 109 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances. While we do not set policy, we are charged with elevating community voices and providing informed recommendations that reflect our values and responsibilities. We want to ensure that any decision or policy is guided by evidence, transparency, and an unwavering commitment to civil rights and public trust.

As next steps, the ERC will carefully consider all public testimony, along with the analysis provided by the Legislative Reference Bureau. This topic will return to our agenda for continued deliberation by the ERC members at our next meeting on Wednesday, July 23, 2025.

You can find the meeting materials, including public testimony, at this link: <u>File</u> <u>250457</u>.

We also encourage residents to stay engaged by reaching out to the Mayor's Office, your Common Council representative, the Fire and Police Commission, and the Milwaukee Police Department.

Your voice is vital to ensuring decisions are made with transparency, equity, and community input at the forefront.