GRANT F. LANGLEYCity Attorney

MIRIAM R. HORWITZ ADAM B. STEPHENS MARY L. SCHANNING JAN A. SMOKOWICZ Deputy City Attorneys



Milwaukee City Hall Suite 800 • 200 East Wells Street • Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202-3551 Telephone: 414.286.2601 • TDD: 414.286.2025 • Fax: 414.286.8550

November 16, 2018

To the Honorable Common Council of the City of Milwaukee Room 205 – City Hall

RE:

C.I. File No. 1029-2018-2244

Communications from Deon Dukes

Dear Common Council Members:

We return the enclosed document which has been filed with the City Clerk and ask that it be introduced and referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Legislation with the following recommendation.

On July 25, 2018 Mr. Dukes was injured while riding his bicycle in the vicinity of 8700 W. Lawrence Avenue. He states that he fell after hitting a pothole in the city street.

The Infrastructure Services Division (ISD) conducted and concluded the investigation into this matter. Their investigation consisted of review of the "Call Center Records" between February 1, 2018 and August 31, 2018. The Infrastructure Services/Field Operations received no calls into the call center for the roadway in the 8700 block of West Lawrence Avenue.

Mr. Duke is seeking a clearing of all of his fines with the City of Milwaukee and the State of Wisconsin, in addition to \$40,000 for pain and suffering. Wisconsin municipalities have discretionary immunity from liability for any damages that is due to a defect in a sidewalk or street. The City did not have prior knowledge of a hazard in this area prior to July 25, 2018.

There is no evidence that the City was negligent in this matter. In addition to the City's discretionary immunity, the City would not be liable for damages and subsequent injuries Mr. Dukes incurred on July 25, 2018. Therefore, we recommend that this claim be denied.

SUSAN E. LAPPEN PATRICIA A. FRICKER HEIDI WICK SPOERL **GREGG C. HAGOPIAN ELLEN H. TANGEN** JAY A. UNORA KATHRYN Z. BLOCK **KEVIN P. SULLIVAN** THOMAS D. MILLER ROBIN A. PEDERSON JEREMY R. MCKENZIE PETER J. BLOCK JENNY YUAN KAIL J. DECKER **ALLISON N. FLANAGAN HEATHER H. HOUGH** ANDREA J. FOWLER PATRICK J. MCCLAIN NAOMI E. GEHLING **CALVIN V. FERMIN BENJAMIN J. ROOVERS ELLENY B. CHRISTOPOULOS RACHEL S. KENNEDY TYRONE M. ST. JUNIOR** HANNAH R. JAHN **SAVEON D. GRENELL** JULIE P. WILSON **GREGORY P. KRUSE** KIMBERLY A. PRESCOTT Assistant City Attorneys



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Very truly yours,

GRANT F. LANGLEY City Attorney

Assistant City Attorney

PAF:mal Enclosure

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