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September 5, 2024

## Dear Common Council:

I write to you in support of Karen Gotzler's appointment to the Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee (HACM) Board of Commissioners.

Karen is a highly respected and principled local professional in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors. She is a strong advocate for human rights and dignity and is motivated by serving her community. I believe that her values and professional experience will make her a valuable addition to the HACM Board.

I am the Interim Executive Director of the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center. Karen served as the Executive Director of the Center from 2012 to 2017. During that time, Karen inherited an organization in financial distress and led it to stability. She oversaw a team comprised of dozens of volunteer and paid staff in carrying out the Center's mission to improve the quality of life for the members of Milwaukee's LGBT community. Her skills and experience leading a nonprofit organization, including resolving significant administrative challenges, will be tremendously useful to HACM and the City.

Again, I recommend Karen Gotzler for appointment to the HACM Board of Commissioners. She will be a valuable addition to the Board. I encourage you to confirm her appointment.

Sincerely,

Ritchie T. Martin

Interim Executive Director

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