



Tia Torhorst  
CEO, Milwaukee Harbor District  
600 East Greenfield Avenue  
Milwaukee, WI 53204

May 29, 2024

Chairperson DiAndre Jackson  
Judiciary and Legislation Committee  
City of Milwaukee Common Council  
200 East Wells Street, Room 301  
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Re: Paulina Gutiérrez's Confirmation to the Executive Director Position for the City of Milwaukee Election Commission

Dear Alderperson Jackson,

I am writing to express my strongest support for the appointment of Paulina Gutiérrez as the new Executive Director for the City of Milwaukee's Election Commission. Having had the privilege of working closely with Ms. Gutiérrez in two distinct roles, I can attest to her exceptional leadership, her deep commitment to community-first values, and her adeptness at managing complex projects and initiatives. She is undoubtedly the right person to lead our election processes with integrity and excellence, and I encourage you to support her nomination.

As Assistant Deputy Secretary for the Wisconsin Department of Administration under Governor Evers, I collaborated with Ms. Gutiérrez on a multi-agency team focused on improving juvenile corrections in our state. She worked tirelessly to enhance conditions for the most vulnerable youth in our system while ensuring that justice was served for the community. Her role demanded incredible organization and strategic thinking as she negotiated complex, hyper-local issues and built a coalition that aligned with the goals of our Governor and the Secretary of Corrections. The skills and insights she developed in this capacity will undoubtedly benefit the Election Commission, especially as we approach a critical election year.

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HARBORDISTRICT.ORG**



Additionally, Ms. Gutiérrez has served with distinction on the board of directors for the Milwaukee Harbor District. Prior to her board appointment, she was an active member of our Community Advisory Committee, prioritizing the needs of the neighborhoods to the west and south of the District. Her leadership has been instrumental in ensuring equitable access to our lake and rivers and removing barriers to economic growth for individuals and businesses on the southside. Her ability to center community voices and drive impactful change is a testament to her suitability for the Executive Director role.

Ms. Gutiérrez possesses the experience, dedication, and personality necessary to manage the multifaceted responsibilities of administering one of the most crucial functions of our government. I couldn't recommend a better person for this role and urge you to confirm her appointment.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tia Torhorst". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'T'.

Tia Torhorst  
CEO, Milwaukee Harbor District

Cc: City of Milwaukee Common Council members  
Paulina Gutiérrez