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MICHAEL J. MURPHY
ALDERMAN, 10TH DISTRICT

June 12, 2018

Dr. Patricia McManus
Health Commissioner
Milwaukee Health Department
Frank P. Zeidler Municipal Building
841 North Broadway Street, 3rd Floor
Milwaukee, WI 53202-3653

Commissioner McManus,

I read with concern the draft report prepared by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) reviewing the Health Department's Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program.

In that report, the DHS determined that environmental investigation files were missing, environmental investigations were not conducted for all child elevated Blood Lead Level (BLL) cases, none of the reviewed records had a completed risk assessment report filed, environmental investigators did not provide lead clearance reports, paper records had incomplete surrounding documentation of the investigation, and orders were not always written when hazards were found or did not include remediation of all identified hazards.

The findings by DHS align with a self-assessment performed by the Health Department earlier this year, and indicate that a number of housing units in Milwaukee associated with a child with lead poisoning likely have not received full and complete lead abatement and remediation services from the City, or the issuance and follow-up of orders to property owners to remediate or abate lead hazards.

My questions are as follows:

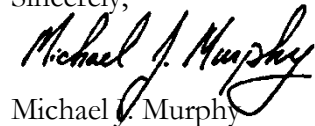
1. What is the current backlog of housing units under the Health Department's secondary prevention program that are in need, based on the BLL of a child associated with that unit, of first-time or additional environmental investigation to identify lead hazards or issuance of new or additional orders to remediate or abate identified lead hazards?
2. What is the backlog of housing units for which, because the owner of the property has failed to timely satisfy an order to remediate or abate a lead hazard, the City has the option of taking

direct administration of abatement and placing charges for the work on the property tax bill, but has not yet done so?

3. What is the current backlog of housing units under the Health Department's primary prevention program in which window replacements or other lead hazard remediation services to make a property lead-safe have been or should have been offered, but have not yet been completed, because a child with lead poisoning is associated with that housing unit?
4. Does the Health Department currently have sufficient resources in place to eliminate the backlogs identified in Questions 1 - 3 by December 31, 2018?
5. If the answer to Question 3 is "No", please identify what resources are lacking to address the different backlogs, and the amount of funding necessary to provide those resources, to enable the Health Department to eliminate the backlogs by December 31, 2018.

I look forward to your response, and to working with the Health Department and my colleagues on the Common Council, to ensure that Milwaukee children are safe from lead hazards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael J. Murphy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "M".

Michael J. Murphy
Alderman, 10th District