Gred e. Smith fr. 4364a N. 1974 PLACE. Milwavkee WI 53209

CITY CLERK'S OFF

June 21, 2022

Milwaukee City Clerk 200 East Wells Street, Room 205 Milwaukee WI 53202

> CFFIGE OF CITY ATTORNEY 22 JUN 22 ANOS: 25

Dear City Clerk:

I'm sending this written statement requesting a hearing regarding c.I. File No. 1029-2021-1294, involving alfred e. Smith jr. and the city of Milwavkee.

I would also like information on the hearing process. Who leads an facilitate the hearing? How can I prepare? What legal aid resources are available.

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PRESORTED FIRST CLASS

TO POST SOL ST

Mr. Alfred Smith 4364A North 19<sup>th</sup> Place Milwaukee, WI 53209

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May 24, 2022

Mailed 6-3-22

Mr. Alfred Smith 4364A North 19<sup>th</sup> Place Milwaukee, WI 53209

RE:

Communication from Alfred Smith

C.I. File No. 1029-2021-1294

Dear Mr. Smith:

We have received your claim in the amount of \$44,501.00, relating to damages you sustained when you drove over a sunken excavation in the area of West Capitol Drive and North 30<sup>th</sup> Street on June 17, 2021.

Our investigation reveals that the Milwaukee Water Works (MWW) performed a roadway repair excavation in the parking lane of 3005 West Capitol Drive on December 12, 2020. Upon completion of the work, the excavation was backfilled and temporarily patched until the permanent restoration could be performed by the City's Street Maintenance department. The temporary restoration had settled prior to when the permanent restoration was made, causing the condition reported in this claim. A search of our Call Center records revealed that the City had no notice of this condition prior to this incident.

The MWW followed standard operating procedures regarding performing an emergency excavation, completing the repairs, and backfilling and blacktopping the excavation with a temporary patch.

Wisconsin municipalities have discretionary immunity from liability for any damages that are due to a defect in a sidewalk or street. The City takes any report of defective streets or sidewalks seriously and upon notice of the defect, the Department of Public Works sends a crew to investigate and/or repair or barricade the hazard. In this case, permanent restorations were made upon notification of this incident.



Mr. Alfred Smith May 24, 2022 Page Two

It should be noted that this excavation was in a parking lane and not a travel lane. It is our view that since the City of Milwaukee had no notice of a problem with the excavation prior to this incident, and because of the City's discretionary immunity, the City is not liable for your damages. As such, we are denying your claim.

If you wish to appeal this decision, you may do so by sending a written statement requesting a hearing within 21 days of the postmarked date of this letter to the Milwaukee City Clerk, 200 East Wells Street, Room 205, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202. Please include a photocopy of this letter's envelope, showing the postmark, and retain the original in the event further proof is needed.

Very truly yours,

TEARMAN SPENCER

City Attorney

PATRICIA KLOSIEWSKI

Investigator Adjuster

PK/cdr

1029-2021-1294/279493