



MAYOR CAVALIER JOHNSON  
CITY OF MILWAUKEE

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February 19, 2025

Honorable Members of the Milwaukee Common Council:

I am hereby vetoing File 240721: A substitute ordinance relating to the membership of the Board of Zoning Appeals. This legislation unnecessarily and permanently constrains the membership of BOZA in a way that limits a representative, qualified, and diverse panel of city residents.

Wisconsin State Statutes have defined how Boards of Zoning Appeals are composed, the duration of terms, the confirmation process, compensation, and who serves as chairperson. Those parameters are fully sufficient to serve the function of the Board. Additional conditions for service on this panel are counterproductive to the larger purpose of Milwaukee's BOZA.

It is important to note that the current composition of BOZA, members that I have appointed and this council has confirmed, already does comply with the limitations this ordinance would impose. It is similarly significant to reiterate that the Common Council already has the ability to confirm or reject any nomination for membership a mayor were to put forward. Therefore, I have concluded this ordinance is both unnecessary and potentially detrimental.

I urge Council members to sustain this veto.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cavalier Johnson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Cavalier Johnson  
Mayor