TEARMAN SPENCERCity Attorney

MIRIAM R. HORWITZ ADAM B. STEPHENS MARY L. SCHANNING Deputy City Attorneys



Milwaukee City Hall Suite 800 • 200 East Wells Street • Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202-3551 Telephone: 414.286.2601 • TDD: 414.286.2025 • Fax: 414.286.8550

June 16, 2020

To the Honorable Common Council of the City of Milwaukee Room 205 – City Hall

Re:

C.I. File Nos. 1029-2020-402; 1029-2020-403

Communication from: Attorney Heath P. Straka

Axley Brynelson, LLP

2 East Mifflin Street, Suite 200 Madison, WI 53703 on behalf of

Ana Saavedra

10115 Armando Circle

Orlando, FL 32825-7725, and

Jake Kromanaker

10115 Armando Circle

Orlando, FL 32825-7725

Dear Council Members:

Axley Brynelson, LLP represents Ana Saavedra and Jake Kromanaker. They allege that on October 26, 2019 Ms. Saavedra sustained injuries when she tripped and fell on an uneven sidewalk slab at the corner of East Clybourn Street and North Water Street. Mr. Kromanaker sustained a loss of society and companionship due to Ms. Saavedra's injuries. The total damages claimed are \$100,000.

Wisconsin municipalities have discretionary immunity from liability for any damage that is due to a defect in a sidewalk or street. Under discretionary immunity, the City is generally not liable for damages.

City records indicate that prior to October 26, 2019 the City had no notice of this hazard in the sidewalk. Because of this lack of notice and the City's discretionary immunity, the City is not liable for the damages.

SUSAN E. LAPPEN **PATRICIA A. FRICKER HEIDI WICK SPOERL GREGG C. HAGOPIAN** JAY A. UNORA KATHRYN Z. BLOCK **KEVIN P. SULLIVAN THOMAS D. MILLER ROBIN A. PEDERSON** JEREMY R. MCKENZIE PETER J. BLOCK **JENNY YUAN** ALLISON N. FLANAGAN **HEATHER H. HOUGH** ANDREA J. FOWLER PATRICK J. MCCLAIN **NAOMI E. GEHLING BENJAMIN J. ROOVERS ELLENY B. CHRISTOPOULOS TYRONE M. ST. JUNIOR** HANNAH R. JAHN JULIE P. WILSON **GREGORY P. KRUSE** KIMBERLY A. PRESCOTT SHEILA THOBANI KATRYNA C. RHODES **NICOLE F. LARSEN** JAMES M. CARROLL **WILLIAM G. DAVIDSON MEIGHAN M. ANGER** ALEXANDER R. CARSON JENNIFER J. TATE Assistant City Attorneys



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Therefore, we recommend that these claims be denied. Very truly yours,

TEARMAN SPENCER

City Attorney

KATRYNA C. RHODES

Assistant City Attorney

KCR:mal Enclosure

C: James Washington (Infrastructure)

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