

# MILWAUKEE AREA LABOR COUNCIL

*American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations*

*SERVING MILWAUKEE, OZAUKEE AND WASHINGTON COUNTIES*

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sent electronically

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Dear Members of the Milwaukee Common Council,

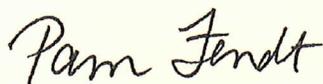
I am writing on behalf of the working people of the Milwaukee Area Labor Council in regards to the 2021 City of Milwaukee budget proposed by Mayor Tom Barrett.

A significant reduction in positions across most departments, and failing to fill vacancies, will mean a reduction in services. Milwaukee residents value their high water quality, safely constructed buildings, libraries, clean streets, and more. Let's not forget that leaf collection just began on October 1<sup>st</sup> and Wisconsin's rough winter is right around the corner. The dedicated general employees who care for these city services, and have gone with marginal wage increases for years deserve fair wages and higher department staffing levels.

In August we shared the City of Milwaukee survey with our members that asked residents where they would allocate City funding. According to Milwaukee Neighborhood News Service, the proposed budget is wildly different than the survey response. Milwaukee residents favor increasing funding for city services and development programs; ones that invest in communities and individuals. While making small cuts to police services, they still make up nearly half of the whole City of Milwaukee budget.

We recognize the difficulty of the budget process for any municipality. We will continue to advocate for equitable shared revenue from the State of Wisconsin with all legislators and legislative candidates and encourage Mayor Barrett and the Milwaukee Common Council to do the same.

In Solidarity,



Pam Fendt, President  
Milwaukee Area Labor Council

CC: Mayor Tom Barrett