



## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 211950, **Version:** 3

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211950  
SUBSTITUTE 3  
880330  
ALD. MURPHY

A substitute charter ordinance relating to the qualifications for commissioner of public works.

7-01 rc

This charter ordinance repeals the provision in the code requiring the commissioner of public works to be a qualified professional engineer.

Whereas, In February 1989, the Common Council adopted File Number 880330, which added a provision to Chapter 7 of the City Charter requiring the Commissioner of Public Works to be a qualified professional engineer registered under the laws of Wisconsin; and

Whereas, This engineering background provision is no longer necessary because the position of the Commissioner of Public Works requires competencies that expand beyond engineering knowledge; and

Whereas, Becoming a qualified professional engineer requires many years of study in a narrowly-focused field that does not properly reflect the skills needed to lead the Department of Public Works; and

Whereas, By eliminating this provision in the Code, the Department of Public Works will have the capacity to choose from a larger of pool of candidates for the Commissioner position whenever it becomes vacant; now, therefore

The Mayor and Common Council of the City of Milwaukee do ordain as follows:

Part 1. Section 7-01 of the code is repealed and recreated to read:

**7-01 Commissioner of Public Works. 1.** In all cities of the first class, whether organized under special charter, or under the general law, there is created the office of commissioner of public works.

**2.** In selecting the commissioner, a professional engineer license, issued by the state of Wisconsin, may be a preferred qualification.

Part 2. This is a charter ordinance and shall take effect 60 days after its passage and publication, unless within such 60 days a referendum petition is filed as provided in s. 66.0101(5), Wis. Stats., in which event this ordinance shall not take effect until submitted to a referendum and approved by a majority of the electors voting thereon.

APPROVED AS TO FORM

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Legislative Reference Bureau

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

IT IS OUR OPINION THAT THE ORDINANCE  
IS LEGAL AND ENFORCEABLE

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Office of the City Attorney

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

LRB177333-3

Alex Highley

5/10/2022