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FOR INFORMATION CALL

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Ald. Michael Murphy
Ald. Jim Bohl
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Police Redistricting To Go Forward As Council Moves To Fill Funding Gap *Chief Hegerty Says Redraw Plan Can Go Live In November*

Milwaukee will have new police district boundaries as early as November if budgetary moves proposed by Common Council members are approved in coming weeks.

That scenario is very good news to several aldermen, including Finance & Personnel Committee chair Ald. Michael J. Murphy, who said he was able to find some \$40,000 to fill a funding gap standing in the way of the redistricting. "I'm holding back 2008 funding for some unfilled city positions to enable the redistricting plan to go forward," said Ald. Murphy.

"The (redistricting) plan has been in the 'on deck' circle for far too long – now it's time to get it in the batter's box and put it into action for the citizens of the City of Milwaukee," Ald. Murphy said.

Police Chief Nannette Hegerty followed through on her promise to make the district boundary redraw a reality if the Council could identify and secure funding for various "nuts and bolts" costs associated with the changes. "Working cooperatively with elected officials, we have resolved some outstanding issues, and anticipate that redistricting will be implemented on or about November 4, 2007," Chief Hegerty said.

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Police Redistricting Green Lighted/ADD ONE

Within the past few weeks Ald. Jim Bohl expressed dismay that the redistricting plan had hit a snag because of cost concerns, which Chief Hegerty outlined in a letter to Mayor Tom Barrett and Common Council President Willie L. Hines, Jr. Today Ald. Bohl expressed relief that the plan will be put in place.

“I believe the redistricting plan is critically important to ensuring that all parts of the city receive the police presence and coverage needed to make people and business owners feel safe,” said Ald. Bohl.

“I’m pleased that Chief Hegerty has responded and that the plan will be moving forward prior to her leaving office,” he said.

In the planning stages for well over a year, the redistricting plan was to have been rolled out in February 2007, but seemingly constant delays have kept it from moving forward.