



May 20, 2014

Ald. Milele A. Coggs
(414) 286-2994

Public Works Committee will hear update on water main breaks

After dozens of water main breaks citywide this week, **Alderman Milele A. Coggs** announced that she has requested an update from the Milwaukee Water Works and the Department of Public Works during tomorrow's meeting of the Common Council's Public Works Committee.

Alderman Coggs said she expects that the communications file she has requested will allow public works officials to deliver the most up-to-date information on the "troubling" outbreak of water main failures. The communication is scheduled to be heard **at 9:45 a.m.** in the regular Public Works Committee meeting on **Wednesday, May 21 in Room 301-B of City Hall, 200 E. Wells. St.** The meeting begins at 9:00 a.m. and will be carried live on the City Channel and at milwaukee.gov/citychannel.

"I have been hearing from people affected by this wave of water main failures," Alderman Coggs said. "We owe it to residents to provide a thorough accounting of what led to these problems, an updated timeline for fixing the broken water mains and an explanation for how such problems will be prevented in the future."

Milwaukee Water Works has said that the problems began with a leaking water main outside the Texas Avenue Pumping Station. The leak prompted the shutdown of the Howard Avenue Water Treatment Plant, leaving the Linwood Water Treatment Plant as the only operating plant supplying the entire service area. In order to maintain service to sites on the periphery, Milwaukee Water Works said they had to increase the output pressure from Linwood, which is believed to have caused the water main breaks.