
Common Council President



1st District Alderman

Ashanti Hamilton
City of Milwaukee Common Council

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Council President Hamilton
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Summer 2017 Promise Zones launch news conference set for Friday

Common Council President Ashanti Hamilton will host a news conference **tomorrow (Friday June 23)** to launch this summer's Milwaukee Promise Zones' initiatives.

The news conference will start at **1:00 p.m.** at **Garden Homes Square Park, 2600 W. Atkinson Ave.** Joining President Hamilton will be fellow **Common Council members, Chief Flynn** and **Milwaukee Police Department** representatives and others. **Media coverage is invited.**

President Hamilton said the launch will be focused on discussing summer activities in the city's four Milwaukee Promise Zones and showcasing the broad coalition (community organizations, faith community partners, government agencies, and others) that are part of the effort.

"I am proud to help shine a bright light on the important projects that are moving forward in the Promise Zones, and to help build the momentum and energy that can be so important to facilitating positive change and action across areas of Milwaukee that are truly hungry for some positive action and community building," President Hamilton said.

President Hamilton said Promise Zone partners are dedicated to nurturing quality of life improvements and building positive energy in each of the city's four Promise Zones where, combined, more than 45% of households make less than \$25,000 annually (compared to 36% citywide and 22% statewide). More than 56% of the local population and more than 71% of children in these areas live in poverty.

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Promise Zones summer 2017/ADD ONE

“The partners are having the opportunity to facilitate significant positive change, while working closely with residents, their Alderperson, city officials, and other key stakeholders,” President Hamilton said.

Alderman Khalif J. Rainey, whose 7th Aldermanic District touches three Promise Zones, said he is eager to see the work set to happen this summer. “I am excited about this initiative and the intentional collaboration with community partners and the alignment of resources that prioritizes the needs of the neighborhoods in the Promise Zones,” he said.

“This aligned strategy is in response to recommendations from the community to expand access to summer jobs for youth, to implement community policing strategies and working to improve the aesthetics of neighborhoods in the Promise Zones,” Alderman Rainey said.

A series of city resource fairs in the four Promise Zones in Milwaukee have helped to bring hundreds of residents help with key life management issues, including child support, driver’s license recovery, job training, employment, health screenings and expungement counseling.

The Promise Zone initiative was approved by the Common Council to help underserved and disadvantaged neighborhoods and residents. In addition to President Hamilton and Alderman Rainey, the Council members whose districts touch Promise Zones and who are involved in the joint effort are: **Alderman Milele A. Coggs, Alderman Russell W. Stamper, II, Alderman Cavalier Johnson, Alderman Chantia Lewis, Alderman Bob Donovan and Alderman José G. Pérez.**

The initiative also enlists the help of the following community partners: **Employ Milwaukee, Running Rebels, WestCare Wisconsin, Southside Organizing Committee, Washington Park Partners, 30th Street Industrial Corridor** and the **All Things in Common** collaboration.

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