



August 10, 2020

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

## MEDIA ALERT

### Council members request report from Mayor on finances, security related to DNC

Twelve members of the Common Council TODAY (**Monday, August 10**) sent a letter (**attached**) to Mayor Tom Barrett requesting information pertaining to finances and security for the now scaled back Democratic National Convention.

The letter – spearheaded by **Alderwoman Milele A. Coggs** – notes that the mostly virtual convention has left questions surrounding the final financial assessment to the city and the security presence that will exist for the event.

The letter states, in part: “An immense amount of planning went into the DNC during the last year, and now that very little of the convention will be happening in Milwaukee questions exist on what costs will or will not be reimbursed by federal grants. As we head into budget season, we would like to know the final financial assessment to the City as it relates to DNC spending. Namely, after all the equipment that has been purchased, contracts issued and other financial resources allocated, what does the City stand to lose, if anything, from the fact that the convention has shifted so drastically in nature? Additionally, what does the scaled back nature of the convention mean for various levels of security that will exist in Milwaukee?”

In addition to Alderwoman Coggs, the letter is signed by Alderman Ashanti Hamilton, Alderman Nik Kovac, Alderman Robert J. Bauman, Alderwoman Nikiya Dodd, Alderman Khalif J. Rainey, Alderwoman Chantia Lewis, Alderman Michael J. Murphy, Alderman Mark Borkowski, Alderman José G. Pérez, Alderman Scott Spiker, and Alderman Russell W. Stamper, II.

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CITY OF MILWAUKEE

City Hall, 200 E. Wells Street, Milwaukee, WI 53202 • [www.city.milwaukee.gov](http://www.city.milwaukee.gov)

August 10, 2020

The Honorable,  
Mayor Tom Barrett  
200 E Wells Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Mayor Barrett:

Last year all of us were elated to hear the news that Milwaukee had been chosen as the host city for the 2020 Democratic National Convention. Unfortunately, the global pandemic brought about by COVID-19 has altered our daily life, and shifted plans for the DNC to the point that the convention is now entirely virtual. Milwaukee is a first class city and losing the opportunity to share that with the world is disappointing, a sentiment we know you agree with.

An immense amount of planning went into the DNC during the last year, and now that very little of the convention will be happening in Milwaukee questions exist on what costs will or will not be reimbursed by federal grants. As we head into budget season, we would like to know the final financial assessment to the City as it relates to DNC spending. Namely, after all the equipment that has been purchased, contracts issued and other financial resources allocated, what does the City stand to lose, if anything, from the fact that the convention has shifted so drastically in nature? Additionally, what does the scaled back nature of the convention mean for various levels of security that will exist in Milwaukee?

We are asking your administration to please report to the Council on these matters, and we look forward to receiving a response soon.

Respectfully,



Milele A. Coggs  
Alderswoman, 6<sup>th</sup> District



Ashanti Hamilton  
Alderman, 1<sup>st</sup> District



Nik Kovac  
Alderman, 3<sup>rd</sup> District



Robert J. Bauman  
Alderman, 4<sup>th</sup> District



Nikiya Dodd  
Alderswoman, 5<sup>th</sup> District



Khalif J. Rainey  
Alderman, 7<sup>th</sup> District



Chantia Lewis  
Alderswoman, 9<sup>th</sup> District



Michael J. Murphy  
Alderman, 10<sup>th</sup> District



Mark A. Borkowski  
Alderman, 11<sup>th</sup> District



José G. Pérez  
Alderman, 12<sup>th</sup> District



Scott P. Spiker  
Alderman, 13<sup>th</sup> District



Russell W. Stamper, II  
Alderman, 15<sup>th</sup> District

cc: Michael Brunson Sr., Acting Chief of Police  
Rhonda Kelsey, Purchasing Director  
Dennis Yaccarino, Budget and Management Director