

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

CHAIR

- Zoning, Neighborhoods and Development Committee

MEMBER

- Public Works
- Steering and Rules Committee



JOSÉ G. PÉREZ
ALDERMAN, 12TH DISTRICT

MEMBER

- Kinnickinnic River Neighborhood Association
- Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District Commission
- National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials
- Walker's Point Association
- Walker Square Neighborhood Association

Accountability, Oversight, and the Public Trust

Statement of Alderman José G. Pérez June 4, 2020

As people across the city, the nation, and the world continue to express their outrage and anger about the death of George Floyd at the hands of Minneapolis police, yesterday the news broke that three additional officers involved in the case have been formally charged.

The George Floyd case is a stark reminder of the critical role of oversight and accountability in public service, and in maintaining the sacred public trust.

The videos, images, and accounts of some of the police reaction to recent protests in the City of Milwaukee are disturbing. I expect full accountability from Milwaukee police officers and 100% dedication to the oath they have sworn to protect and serve the City of Milwaukee and every one of its citizens. If an officer violates his or her oath, I will have no sympathy for that officer. Institutional racism will not be tolerated in any city department.

As always, I support citizens expressing their concerns and encourage them to be involved in public safety and policing issues. Complaints directed to my office about misconduct have resulted in officer discipline.

The City has procedures in place to assist in holding those sworn to serve accountable, and we need to use them.

The Community Collaborative Committee, originally part of the City's draft reform agreement with the Department of Justice, is now tasked to help the City comply with its obligations under the settlement of the lawsuit brought by the American Civil Liberties Union against the Milwaukee Police Department. It will help gather the community's input and recommendations for how to change policing.

There is a way forward for healing and reform. We must all be part of that and consider all options.

-30-