

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

VICE CHAIR

- Public Safety and Health Committee

CO-CHAIR

- City-County Carjacking and Reckless Driving Task Force

MEMBER

- Community & Economic Development Committee
- Licenses Committee
- City-County Carjacking and Reckless Driving Task Force
- Energy, Environment and Natural Resources Committee
- Milwaukee Continuum of Care
- Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District Commission



CHANTIA LEWIS
ALDERWOMAN, 9TH DISTRICT

NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES (NLC):

- Energy, Environment and Natural Resources Committee (**Vice Chair**)
- Military Communities Council (**Vice Chair**)
- National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials (**Director - Region 7**)

Council passes legislation creating the MPD Diversion Task Force

Statement of Alderwoman Chantia Lewis March 23, 2021

Today the Common Council passed a file that creates the Milwaukee Police Department (MPD) Diversion Task Force with the goal of creating a master plan for responding to calls for service that do not involve threats to public safety. I want to thank my colleagues for supporting this file as we work toward creating a reimagined policing system that benefits all residents citywide.

This task force is the next step in the process started last year when the Council adopted a resolution establishing an unarmed first responder program. The master plan created by the MPD Diversion Task Force will follow the criteria set forth in that resolution. Namely, this involves creation of a plan for responding to calls for service that do not involve threats to public safety, particularly for those involving persons experiencing mental health, substance abuse or homelessness crises, with trained, unarmed first responders. I'm proud to have been the lead sponsor on both of these files.

The task force will consist of 17 members all with a diverse skill set and background. Among those on the task force will be: three Council members, the Executive Director of the Fire and Police Commission, the Director of Emergency Management and Communications, two members from each of the fire and police departments, two members employed by Milwaukee County, two members of the community, and two members with research and academic experience.

I look forward to this task force getting up and running in the near future and reviewing their findings and recommendations later this year.

Our community deserves an equitable policing system, and this helps get us one step closer to achieving that goal.

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