
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



FOR INFORMATION CALL

October 13, 2026

Ald. Andrea M. Pratt

(414) 286-2228

Ald. Milele A. Coggs

(414) 286-2994

Council unanimous in adopting measure to prevent flooding incidents in flood-prone areas

Today (Tuesday, October 13) the Common Council voted unanimously to approve a resolution that directs the Department of Public Works (DPW) to establish severe weather protocols to prevent flooding incidents in areas known to be prone to flooding.

File #260807 – sponsored by **Alderman Andrea M. Pratt** and cosponsored by **Alderman Milele A. Coggs** – directs DPW to establish protocols for weather events in areas that are flood-prone (modeled after the City’s snow protocols) and report the new protocols to the Common Council within 90 days.

On August 9 and 10, 2025, a series of severe floods impacted Milwaukee and its surrounding areas, with portions of the city receiving between 7 and 10 inches of rainfall in a single evening. This weather event resulted in at least 2,200 homes that were severely damaged or destroyed, as well as at least two confirmed fatalities.

Alderman Pratt, whose 1st Aldermanic District included neighborhoods that were decimated by the floodwaters from the August 2025 storm, said the damage affected several other aldermanic districts and is a “key citywide concern affecting tens of thousands” of residents. “I am grateful for the support on this file from my colleagues, who realize that this can happen quickly and without much warning to their districts, as well,” she said.

-More-

Flood prevention protocols/ADD ONE

Alderwoman Coggs said the August 2025 flooding brought wide-spread damage despite \$580 million (over recent decades) in green infrastructure and flood management projects implemented by the city and the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD).

“Sadly, we have flood-prone areas that can be quickly inundated almost any time there is moderate rainfall, and not just during extreme weather events,” Alderwoman Coggs said. “We are looking to prevent these occurrences and want protocols that include proactive steps such as clearing debris from sewer grates in advance of weather events.”

-30-