



Department of Public Works

Jeffrey S. Polenske, P.E.
Commissioner of Public Works

For Immediate Release
November 18, 2021

**Statement of Commissioner of Public Works Jeffrey S. Polenske
November 18, 2021**

The following is a statement from Commissioner of Public Works Jeffrey S. Polenske

“After nearly 31 years of working for the Department of Public Works, I have decided to step into a new chapter of my life and retire from City of Milwaukee service. I take great pride in the City that I have lived in and worked for since going to school at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and then getting my first job with DPW as a Traffic Control Engineer. It really has been a rewarding career working with so many dedicated public servants over the years and it has been a pleasure to serve as a Cabinet Member for Mayor Tom Barrett, as well as, Mayor Marvin Pratt and Mayor John Norquist since 2000.

I have spent virtually my entire career in public service. While this has been immensely gratifying, other professional goals are drawing me to a position in the private sector, one that will present new opportunities and challenges. I look forward to my new role with Michael Baker International as Vice President & Office Executive – Wisconsin.

With great appreciation, I want to specifically thank all employees of the Department of Public Works for their continued efforts to provide a high quality of service to our community. I am confident that I leave the department in very capable hands. DPW is made up of four divisions each of which have leaders with significant career experience and commitment to serving the City of Milwaukee and its residents. As we welcome another winter season, DPW remains highly committed, capable and collaborative to effectively conduct Snow & Ice Control and address any other challenges our cold weather months might present.

Lastly, I must not forget the support, patience, and love that my family has shown me over the years. I have been truly blessed. My wife Lisa and I look forward to continuing our lives in Milwaukee and enjoying the so many great things our City has to offer.”

The following is a statement from Mayor Tom Barrett

“Jeff Polenske has been a respected leader in Milwaukee government for decades, and he departs with a long list of accomplishments. I’m personally very happy for Jeff, and I wish him well in his next endeavor.”

###

