

March 24, 2016

Dear Mayor Soglin and Alders,

On March 31, 2015, the City Council unanimously voted to accept a report presented by our Commission regarding the troubling lack of accessible taxi cab service in the City of Madison. When the Common Council took action on this report, Mayor Soglin stressed that the Council was not only accepting the report, but also committing to take action on the issues raised in the report.

In September of last year, the Commission sent a letter to the Mayor and all Alders to follow up on the Council's vote and to urge action on the topic. Despite the warm response and broad support the report received at the March Council meeting, and despite our efforts to follow up with you all in September, we have heard nothing further on this topic from the Mayor or any of the Alders.

It has been nearly one year since the Council vote and we are very disappointed and frustrated with the lack of movement or public discussion on this topic. In the hope of reigniting this conversation, we are re-sending our September letter and the report, **and asking for an update from the Mayor and/or any Alder who is interested in or currently engaged in this issue.** Our Commission will be discussing options on how best to proceed on the accessible taxi issue at our next meeting on **Thursday, April 21st** and a response from City leaders on this important topic would be helpful in that discussion.

As you think about this issue and how best to move forward, we urge you to remember the Mission Statement for the City of Madison, which states, "The City of Madison will be a safe and healthy place for all to live, learn, work and play". The inequities that exist in our transportation system for citizens with disabilities are in conflict with our City's mission.

We look forward to hearing from you so that we can begin working together to find a solution that honors the City's mission statement and demonstrates that all of our residents have an equal opportunity to participate in our community.

Thank you,

MEMBERS OF THE DISABILITY RIGHTS COMMISSION