

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 4, 2014

TO: Common Council Organizational Committee  
Michael P. May, City Attorney

FROM: Heather Allen, Common Council Legislative Analyst

RE: UPDATE FROM LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

### LEGISLATIVE AGENDA 2013-2014

In 2012, the Common Council chose to adopt a proactive Legislative Agenda focusing on alternative revenue and demographic change. These issues were broad in scale and potential impact on the City of Madison, yet the issues were not addressed by other committees or agencies.

### DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGE WORK GROUP

Chair: Alder Resnick, President Pro Tem  
Members: Alder Cnare, Alder Phair, Alder Weier

The Demographic Change Work Group introduced its interim report *Demographic Change and the City of Madison: Findings of the Common Council Legislative Agenda Work Group on Demographic Change and Recommendations for Action* to the Common Council on January 21, 2014. The three recommendations contained in the Report are:

- Support senior housing designed for public transit and pedestrian access with a portion of affordable units; and
- Conduct a livability assessment for each aldermanic district and fund projects in each district based on the results; and
- Strengthen career opportunities for disadvantaged Madison youth ages 16-24 through both City of Madison internship programs and community partnerships.

The Work Group and Legislative Analyst have presented the Report to 11 Boards, Committees and Commissions as of April 8, 2014. A draft memo detailing the responses from those groups is attached to Legistar File 32670. Following the April 10 presentation to the Board of Health the Resolution and Report will be returned to the Common Council Organizational Committee, likely May 20, 2014. The Work Group will be available to present the Report and feedback from committees.

The Demographic Change Work Group met with Reverend Gee on March 18 to discuss the Report and hear his thoughts on what Madison leaders can do to improve the community. In addition, [Alder Weier wrote an article](#) in the March 26 issue of the Capital Times to invite public comments on the Report.

## **ALTERNATIVE SOURCES OF REVENUE WORK GROUP**

Chair: Alder Clear

Members: Alder King, Alder Palm

The Alternative Sources of Revenue Work Group has not met since the last update, though a small staff group is developing a proposal regarding possible fee structure to support urban forestry investments.

## **RACIAL EQUITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE INITIATIVE**

The Racial Equity and Social Justice Initiative (previously termed Equity Team) will introduce its report to the Common Council on April 29, 2014. The report provides specific recommendations to advance equity in city policies and budgets, city operations and in the community. The work of the RESJI and the Demographic Change Work Group continue to reinforce one another and maximize staff investment and resources in these issues.

Alders have requested a meeting on the use of data especially as it relates to equity. The goal of the meeting originally slated for April 21 was to learn more about the available data, how data is used to meet goals, and structures to manage the data. This meeting will be rescheduled to accommodate an increased level of interest.

## **WHITE PRIVILEGE CONFERENCE**

Several city staff and alders attended the 15<sup>th</sup> annual White Privilege Conference held at the Monona Terrace March 26 – 29. With approximately 2,500 participants the conference covered an array of issues including personal experiences as well as well as institutional and structural racism. Keynote addresses from the conference are [available at Madison City Channel](#) for on-line viewing.

Dr. Jacqueline Battalora, author of [Birth of a White Nation: The Invention of White People and Its Relevance Today](#) laid the groundwork for the conference by exploring the laws from the late 1600s which established ‘whiteness’ as a direct response to the united rebellion of white indentured servants and African slaves. Understanding this legal background aids in efforts to address disparities resulting from these historic laws and policies. Other resources are available at the [conference website](#).

## **RECENTLY COMPLETED LEGISLATIVE ANALYSIS PROJECTS**

- ✓ Bed and Breakfast Promotion Models
- ✓ Participatory Budgeting
- ✓ City Property Usage Definitions (Encroachment, Privilege in the Streets, Lease)

## **OPEN PROJECTS**

- Alternative Revenue Proposal for Work Group
- Transportation Structure
- Model Ordinances to Protect of Historic Districts
- Poverty and Segregation in District 18
- Community Funding Processes:  
How do other cities align community funding with equity and other priorities?
- Redevelopment of Entertainment Venues and Arenas