

**CITY OF MADISON
OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY
Room 401, CCB
266-4511**

Date: September 27, 2018

MEMORANDUM

TO: Common Council Executive Committee (CCEC)

FROM: Michael P. May, City Attorney
John Strange, Assistant City Attorney

RE: Update on the Task Force on the Structure of City Government

This memo will serve as a brief update on the work of the Task Force on the Structure of City Government (TFOGS) since our last update to this Committee (late July 2018).

- The TFOGS met four (4) additional times since our last update. One scheduled meeting was cancelled due to a lack of quorum.
- Alder David Ahrens was appointed to fill the alder vacancy on TFOGS which resulted from the resignation of former alder Sarah Eskrich. There remain two mayoral resident vacancies on the Task Force due to the resignations of Jerry Vang and Catherine Patton. The mayor recently proposed the appointment of former Council member Ronald Trachtenburg to fill one of those vacancies. That appointment is being introduced on Tuesday, October 2.
- The Task Force completed its written Government Official Survey, the results of which can be found in Legistar File 50732. We had an approximately 50% response rate to the survey.
- In addition to completing the survey, the Task Force and its subcommittees have held meetings to receive input from former and current government officials. On September 13, 2018, Mayor Soglin and former Mayors Cieslewicz, Sensenbrenner, and Skornicka provided testimony and answered questions from the Task Force and general public. City Channel covered that meeting, which can be viewed here:

<https://media.cityofmadison.com/Mediasite/Play/af66d575d0f4487f917bbb6b44e9d47d1d>

Former Mayor Sue Bauman was unavailable on September 13. She is set to address a TFOGS subcommittee on October 8 at 2:00 p.m. in GR-27 of the City-County Building.

- In addition to hearing from former and current mayors, the TFOGS has also

received and continues to receive input from current and former government officials, including Lucas Dailey, Satya Rhodes-Conway, Keith Furman, and Scott Resnick. Chris Schmidt, Barbara Harrington-McKinney, and Samba Baldeh plan to address a subcommittee of the TFOGS on October 11, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. at the Alisha Ashman library.

- The TFOGS has requested and received from the City Attorney's Office extensive data and information on the City's current Boards, Commissions, and Committees, the number of alders on the Common Council over time, the number of Boards, Commissions, and Committees served by each current district alder, voter turnout statistics and more. This information can all be found in Legistar file number 50732.
- The Task Force has the following upcoming meetings scheduled:
 - 9/28/18 at 6:00 p.m., Goodman Community Center
 - 10/12/18 at 6:00 p.m., Room 354, City County Building
 - 10/26/18 at 6:00 p.m., Urban League of Greater Madison
 - 11/9/18 at 6:00 p.m., Good Shepard Lutheran Church