

**REPORT OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS
MADE TO THE
TASK FORCE ON STRUCTURE OF CITY GOVERNMENT
April 23, 2018**

A. Introduction.

The Task Force on the Structure of City Government (TFOGS) established this Subcommittee to examine and report on how the Task Force should engage government officials on issues related to the structure of city government in Madison, Wisconsin. The resolution establishing the TFOGS (Legistar 47707) made specific recommendations as to which government officials should be consulted by the TFOGS. The Subcommittee attempted to follow the resolution in making this report.

This report is the result of the Subcommittee meeting of April 18, 2018.

B. Officials to Be Consulted.

1. Current and former Mayors: Soglin, Cieslewicz, Bauman, Sensenbrenner, Skornicka.
2. All current and former Alders elected on or after April 2003. This will capture presidents and vice-presidents of the Council. A quick estimate suggests this group will comprise about 60 people.
3. All chairs of Boards, Commissions and Committees (BCC) during the two-year period January 1, 2009-December 31, 2010, and the two-year period January 1, 2016-December 31, 2017. These periods are two years toward the end of a term of the last two Mayors. The Subcommittee determined that the task of contacting all former chairs for a longer period or all BCC members would be too resource intensive, and that those groups would be included in the community outreach/public participation effort. The Subcommittee recommended that, when the process has reached that point, all City BCC should be asked to include on their agenda information about the opportunity for public participation with TFOGS.
4. Other groups discussed included appointed public officials or employees, neighborhood associations, important civic groups, and mayoral chiefs of staff. The Subcommittee determined not to include these groups in the government

official portion of the consultation, but to include them in the community outreach/public participation effort.

5. The resolution directed the TFOGS to consult with the Guidance Team for Effective Government. This team was made up of city employees and officials who prepared a report in early 2017, previously distributed to the TFOGS.¹ The Subcommittee determined not to include the Guidance Team in the consultation outlined below, but to invite the Team to make a presentation at a TFOGS meeting.

C. Method of Consultation or Gathering of Information.

1. The Subcommittee decided that a survey should be prepared to ask the government officials identified above to respond to specific questions. The survey should focus on those matters identified in the Resolution related to the Mayor, the Common Council, and BCC. Each survey would also ask the responder if they wish to address the TFOGS, and provide several “Extra Questions”, specific areas to address in any presentation to TFOGS. The Subcommittee felt it was very important that the same survey go to all. The survey would be designed to elicit on-line responses, but allow for other methods for those unable to respond electronically.
2. The Subcommittee wanted to take special efforts to get the Mayors to attend a meeting, respond to the “Extra Questions”, and be available for questions from TFOGS. Such a meeting is likely to garner media attention and public attendance. The Subcommittee considered setting this up as a breakfast meeting and seeks a determination from TFOGS on that question.
3. The Subcommittee recommends that, as the consultation and information gathering process with government officials is ending, the TFOGS schedule an open house for all responders, with pizza and soda (or something like that) which would be noticed as a meeting but be a totally informal exchange of thoughts.
4. The information gathered from these surveys, presentations to the TFOGS, and the open house would form the basis of issues for inquiry in the public participation effort.

¹ This document and other documents related to the work of TFOGS are gathered in Legistar File No. 50702. The members of the Effective Government Guidance Team included Byron Bishop, Dave Schmiedicke, Michael May, Dave Gawenda, Paul Kronberger, Sarah Edgerton, Brittany O'Donnell, John Strange, Eric Christianson, Linette Rhodes, Kevin Firchow, Nick Zavos, Jason Jacobs, and Melissa Gombar.

Question for the Task Force.

The Subcommittee asks for guidance as to whether the Subcommittee should oversee city staff in the development of the Survey.

Report Prepared by Michael P. May
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