

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

Date: July 30, 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 Government Structure

This memo will serve as a brief update on the work of the Task Force on Government Structure (TFOGS).

- The TFOGS has met approximately six times since February. In addition, the TFOGS created three subcommittees to act as work groups, each of which has met a number of times.
- The TFOGS created a survey for government officials. The survey was sent to approximately 150 former government officials, including all current and former mayors, current alderpersons, former alderpersons dating back to 2003, and former chairs of Boards, Commissions, and Committees for select years during the current and immediately preceding mayoral administrations. The TFOGS has asked for responses to the survey to be completed by August 1. Preliminary results are back from around 50 respondents.
- The TFOGS has requested and received from the City Attorney's Office information on first class cities, alternative forms of government allowed by state law, redistricting, forms of government used by other cities across the country, and the wards and aldermanic districts with the greatest percentage of non-white populations. The City Attorney's Office is continuing work on other research projects, including a comprehensive analysis of the makeup of all the city's boards, commissions, and committees and an analysis of what other progressive cities are doing to counter state and federally led local preemption efforts. To assist in these efforts, a rising third-year law student from the University of Wisconsin Law School is volunteering in the City Attorney's Office approximately 15 hours per week.
- The TFOGS website is live and accessible by the public at:

www.cityofmadison.com/task-force-on-governmental-structure

- In one of its early meetings, the TFOGS heard from staff and other Task Force Members on strategies for conducting public outreach. At its July 30, 2018 meeting, the Task Force will hear from the Northside Navigators and from Annette Williams about outreach strategies they have found successful in working in the Northside communities and with regard to the Oscar Meyer transition. The Task Force hopes to move into an intensive public outreach phase of its work this fall.
- Given the amount of work the Task Force needs to complete, TFOGS asked our office to draft a resolution for the Common Council to extend the deadline for its report from December 31, 2018 to December 31, 2019, with a goal of issuing the report in mid-2019.
- Two Task Force members, Jerry Vang and Catherine Patton, submitted their resignations from the Task Force. The mayor's office is working on appointments to replace them. In addition, Alder Sara Eskrich was a member of the Task Force, meaning that there will be only eight members of the 11-member body as of August 8. We have asked President Baldeh to appoint another Alder to the Task Force.
- The Task Force has the following upcoming meetings scheduled:
 - 7/30/18 at 6:00 p.m., Pinney Branch Library
 - 8/27/18 at 6:00 p.m., Urban League of Greater Madison
 - 9/17/18 at 6:00 p.m., Warner Park Community Center
 - 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 (Tentative)

CC: TFOGS Members