

MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 1, 2105
TO: Common Council Organizational Committee
Michael P. May, City Attorney
FROM: Heather Allen, Legislative Analyst
RE: Update from the Legislative Analyst

Morgridge Center Interns

The Morgridge Center students are nearing the completion of their semester with the city. The students have participated in a wide-range of activities and engaged at many levels of civil governance. RESJI interns Brianna Koerth and Malcom Stern will present information on social media for racial equity and social justice at the December 1, 2015 Common Council Organizational Committee.

Five Morgridge Center students working with Alder Wood and Pro Tem Cheeks have championed an effort to bring the UW student ID into compliance with voter ID laws, in order to ensure access to the polls. In November the Common Council passed a resolution calling on the UW to demonstrate leadership and empower students to vote, and on December 3rd, the County Board will consider a similar resolution. Through their internships the students and City Clerk staff met with Dean of Students Lori Berquam and other UW officials and built deeper relationships with Associated Students of Madison. The students became Special Registration Deputies, and registered 36 students to vote at a November 3 event that garnered press coverage in multiple outlets.

Racial Equity and Social Justice Initiative

[Update Video](#)

Several Alders have asked for an update of progress for the Racial Equity and Social Justice Initiative (RESJI). In an effort to accommodate busy schedules and provide a complete report available at your convenience, RESJI created a video update for the Council. This video includes significant accomplishments from 5 city departments and specific next steps. The video is broken up with chapter markers so you can watch it in segments. For those with only 5 minutes to spare, please watch Jordan Bingham's presentation which starts at minute 9:30.

RESJI Celebration

The Common Council will be hosting a celebration of RESJI. Please join us on Tuesday December 15th from 5:00 – 7:30 PM at the Central Library, third floor. It has been two years since the inception of the Racial Equity and Social Justice Initiative. It is time to celebrate their work and learn about the next steps as we move forward. The Council will be giving awards to the RESJI Core Team and highlighting key departments. Council Leadership has requested RESJI develop a request for support for next steps and staff. Staff are exploring strategies to formalize the responsibility to implement RESJI within Department Head and Division Head contracts.

RESJI Data Team

The Data Team has developed materials that display the Neighborhood Resource Team areas as they relate to other available data and other City of Madison Neighborhoods. Maps from the CARPC Geography of Opportunity Report and the Active Living Index will provide background information for this analysis. Maps will illustrate the relationship between NRTs and bike service, destinations, population density, transit access to jobs and more. This information will be presented to the Mayor on December 9th and may be of interest to the Council as this research progresses.

December 14th CCOC Subcommittee to Develop Council Strategic Plan/Priorities

On Monday December 14th the Subcommittee formed to develop the Council Strategic Plan/Priorities will meet for the first time in the Council Office Large Conference Room, City County Building. The members of the Subcommittee are Ald. Ledell Zellers, Ald. Denise DeMarb, and Ald. Mark Clear. Alternate Members of the Subcommittee are Ald. Shiva Bidar-Sielaff, Ald. Maurice Cheeks and Ald. Matt Phair.

Recent Conferences, Meetings and Workshops

I have attended a number of meetings and workshops recently including the League of Wisconsin Municipalities (LWM) in Milwaukee, the conference on Evidenced Based Practices in Juvenile Justice and the National League of Cities in Nashville. Notes on the LWM conference are attached and in future updates I will provide details on additional conferences.