

## **Resolution 1920R-014**

### **One Milwaukee Initiative**

**by Director Miller**

WHEREAS, Milwaukee County (the County), the City of Milwaukee (the City), and Milwaukee Public Schools (the MPS District) have a common interest to improve the lives and conditions of Milwaukee residents; and

WHEREAS, The County, City, and MPS District may share many of the same administrative and service needs; and

WHEREAS, The County, City, and the MPS District all have increasing fiscal pressures due to a combination of: costs-to-continue rising faster than revenues, rising pension obligations, stagnant revenue sources, and forced reliance on property taxes;

WHEREAS, Other communities around Wisconsin (the State) have successfully combined services and shared costs in the provision of local government service; and

WHEREAS, Research compiled by the non-partisan Wisconsin Policy Forum has outlined a number of areas where services might successfully be shared; and

WHEREAS, The University of Wisconsin-Madison's Institute for Research on Poverty (IRP) finds, under its Wisconsin Poverty Measure, that the County has the highest poverty rate in the State, at a rate of 17.2 percent in 2017; and

WHEREAS, The IRP has reported, based on data compiled by the United States Census Bureau, that in the County, 28.7 percent of Blacks and 18.7 percent of Latinos were poor, compared to 8.3 percent of Whites; and

WHEREAS, Studies show that persons in poverty face higher rates of infant mortality, lead contamination, incidences of crime, unemployment and underemployment, and housing instability; and

WHEREAS, Disparate and parallel efforts over several decades have failed to address these problems in a sustained and meaningful way; and

WHEREAS, The County, City, and MPS District share a common interest to improve the lives and conditions of Milwaukee residents and an obligation to do so as cost-effectively as possible; and

WHEREAS, The County, at its meeting of February 6, 2020, and the Milwaukee Common Council, at its meeting of February 11, 2020, adopted resolutions co-establishing a joint taskforce, named the "ONE Milwaukee Taskforce" (the Taskforce), to convene area leaders to perform the following duties:

1. Identify infrastructure coordination and resource-leveraging opportunities between the County, City, and MPS (District).
2. Recommend any operational or other potential opportunities for coordination and collaboration between the County, City, and the MPS District.
3. Propose cost-saving and cost-sharing agreements where resources may be aligned to create opportunities for bridging infrastructure gaps to create inclusive and sustainable service pathways to improve outcomes for Milwaukee communities.
4. Ensure that all proposals and agreements are comprehensive, place-based, and data-driven.
5. Focus efforts on Milwaukee communities identified as "Promise Zones."
6. Work toward advancing the priorities identified in the Milwaukee County Strategic "One County One Plan," the Blueprint for Peace, and MKE Elevate plan.

7. Monitor and regularly report on the progress of any agreements; and

WHEREAS, the Taskforce shall have six members, including:

1. The Milwaukee County Board Chairman or their designee.
2. A County Board Supervisor, who shall be appointed by the Board Chairman.
3. The Milwaukee Common Council President or their designee.
4. A Milwaukee Common Council Alderman, who shall be appointed by the Milwaukee Common Council President.
5. The Milwaukee Public Schools' Superintendent or their designee.
6. The Milwaukee Board of School Directors President or their designee; and,

WHEREAS, The Taskforce members shall elect their chairman by simple majority and the City Clerk of Milwaukee shall provide staffing to support the Taskforce; and,

WHEREAS, The Taskforce shall form and meet as soon as practicable and shall present its findings to the County Board, the Common Council, and the Milwaukee Board of School Directors within six months of the passage of this resolution; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Milwaukee Board of School Directors hereby joins with the County and the City in the establishment of the ONE Milwaukee Taskforce and pledges its full support of the ONE Milwaukee initiative;

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Milwaukee Board of School Directors seek to affirm the MPS District along with Milwaukee County and the City of Milwaukee as founding entities of the ONE Milwaukee Taskforce and any initiatives derived from this partnership; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That as initiatives are considered, funded, and implemented, the MPS 53206 Initiative, and the 1825 Initiative on Early Childhood, be prominent in priority; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board hereby directs the Office of Board Governance, the Administration, and the Office of Accountability and Efficiency, to collaborate on and present proposals to the Milwaukee Board of School Directors for possible cost- and service-sharing arrangements with Milwaukee County and the City of Milwaukee as part of the ONE Milwaukee initiative and that reporting begin no later than the May 2020 Board cycle.

*February 27, 2020*