

March 20, 2020

Honorable Members,

At the request of President Hamilton, I will be attending the daily COVID emergency communication briefings and reporting back the larger issues raised. There are always more granular details and I am happy to answer any particular questions you might have if I can.

At these briefings, the importance of a single line of communication to the public is stressed. While this information is being shared with you for your use, is asked that it not be distributed outside the established lines of communication.

Principle Issues:

\*As now widely reported, Mayor Barrett is voluntarily self-quarantining due to direct exposure from a COVID-positive City staff person. He is asymptomatic and participated in the call.

\*Staffing of the Unified Call Center and attempting to permit UCC staff to work remotely. The phone number 286-CITY is wired to the City network and cannot readily be forwarded. The ITMD is working on a solution but the present circumstances are preventing the UCC from working at nominal levels.

\*The search for facilities to be used as “surge” space for COVID cases continues. Two primary sites have been identified, but others are under consideration and still others have been offered unprompted.

\*The Election Commission is experiencing a significant level of attrition in poll workers with, at present – and this was expressed anecdotally rather than in numbers – poll workers leaving faster than they can be trained.

\*The best location for the overall Milwaukee County picture of the incidence of the COVID remains: <https://county.milwaukee.gov/EN/COVID-19>

Respectfully,

Jim

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