City of Milwaukee

Office of the City Clerk
Council Services Division

Ronald D. Leonhardt
City Clerk

[redacted]

June 28, 2004

Ald. Joe Davis, Sr., Chair
Community and Economic Development Committee

Ald. Davis,

This letter is intended to supplement the attached fiscal note pertaining to Common Council File Number (CCFN) 040220, an ordinance establishing a city youth council. With respect to the short-term fiscal impact (through the end of 2004), I believe that the duties assigned by this ordinance to the office of the City Clerk can be absorbed by existing staff without diminishing its commitment to current tasks. While the long-term fiscal impact of this file is more difficult to assess – depending as it does on the decisions of a Youth Council that has not yet been seated – I believe that its demands, too, can be met with existing staff. I would, however, request that the workload created by the Youth Council be re-evaluated once it has been given an opportunity to get "on its feet".

My evaluation of the short-term impact of this council file is based on the following timetable. Please note that certain portions of it include assumptions that may not necessarily come to pass, notable among these is approval of the council file by the full Common Council and the timely, frankly rapid, nomination of Youth Council members:

- July 7, 2004: CCFN 040220 is approved by the Common Council.
- July – August 2004: The 5-member Selection Committee is appointed by both the Mayor and the Common Council President.
- September 2004: The Selection Committee meets to establish rules and procedures for the Youth Council as well as establishing guidelines for applying for an evaluating potential Youth Council members. The Selection Committee also then forwards to the Common Council a recommended list of 15 Youth Council members.

- October 8, 2004: The Common Council receives both the 15 recommended Youth Council members and the proposed set of procedures and rules. These are both heard by the Community and Economic Development Committee on October 19, 2004.

- November 3, 2004: The Common Council approves both the Youth Council members and the proposed set of procedures and rules.

- Early November 2004: The Youth Council has its organizational meeting. Members must nominate and elect a president and vice-president. After this meeting, the President must nominate his or her delegate to the standing Advisory Committee of the Youth Council.

Given all this, it seems highly unlikely that the first plenary session of the Youth Council would or could be held any sooner than January 2005, and potentially even later. With the exception of the potentially busy month of September, the workload for the staff of the City Clerk's office through the end of 2004 should prove nominal.

Thereafter, much depends on the frequency of Youth Council meetings, the number of meetings of Youth Council committees, as well as the scope of projects that either might undertake. There will, of course, be costs related to staff, mailing, generating and posting agendas, as well as the research and drafting services of the Legislative Reference Bureau. While I would not presume to speak for the last of these, I again believe that these costs and this workload will be manageable with existing staff.

Should you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience. I will appear at the Community and Economic Development Committee meeting scheduled for June 29, 2004, to answer any questions you might have about this letter.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jim Owczarski
Council Records Manager.