

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE,** October 5, 2020 Contact: Brian Rothgery, 414-278-4230

## Milwaukee County Board unanimously approves strategic planning ordinance

New efforts compel longer-term thinking, goal-setting and performance-based reporting after 20 years with no strategic plan in place

MILWAUKEE – For the first time in Milwaukee County government history, a new strategic planning ordinance will require each department's budget request proposal to, "show taxpayers and stakeholders how its departmental strategic plan links with the county's strategic priorities, mission, vision, and values," and requires leaders to, "include a department mission statement, strategic issues, goals and objectives, strategies to achieve the objectives, action plans and outcome/performance measures."

After acting without a county-wide strategic plan for 20 years, Milwaukee County is committing to strategic planning and calling on departments to articulate how their policies, programs and procedures align to its long-term vision. The new ordinance was introduced by County Supervisor Joseph Czarnezki (a former state senator and former Milwaukee County clerk) and Supervisor Shawn Rolland (a Wauwatosa School Board member and senior communications strategist).

"We have a bold vision: 'by achieving racial equity, Milwaukee County will be the healthiest county in Wisconsin," said Supervisor Rolland (District 6). "If we want to see Milwaukee County transform into one of the healthiest counties in Wisconsin in our lifetime, we need to have all hands on deck. This new ordinance will help us accelerate progress, help people live healthier lives, and gain ground faster than ever before."

Milwaukee County currently <u>ranks 71<sup>st</sup> out of 72 counties in health</u>, according to the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute's 2020 County Health Rankings.

"Milwaukee County was the first body in America to call systemic racism what it is – a public health crisis," said Supervisor Czarnezki (District 11). "Now is the time for our county to focus its limited time, talents and budget on dismantling racism and promoting better health outcomes."

<u>The ordinance</u> – which was co-sponsored by Chairwoman Marcelia Nicholson and Supervisors Willie Johnson, Jr., Patti Logsdon, Felesia A. Martin, Liz Sumner, Russell Antonio Goodwin, Sr. and Ryan Clancy – will take effect in 2021 and govern discussions related to the 2022 Milwaukee County budget. For more information about Milwaukee County's vision and strategic plan, please visit: <a href="https://county.milwaukee.gov/EN/Vision">https://county.milwaukee.gov/EN/Vision</a>.

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