



Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

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Nicholson, Czarnezki, and Rolland Lead Effort to Secure Critically Needed Federal Aid

MILWAUKEE – County Board Chairwoman Marcelia Nicholson and Supervisors Joseph Czarnezki and Shawn Rolland introduced a [resolution](#) today urging the U.S Congress to pass and President Donald J. Trump to sign a \$500 billion emergency stabilization aid package for counties and cities across America. The item will be considered Thursday, May 14 at a special meeting of the [Committee of the Whole](#) at 10:30am, available via [livestream](#).

“We are facing a massive budget gap next year as a result of the coronavirus, due to added costs on the one hand, and a loss of previously expected revenue on the other. Without additional support from the federal government, we will not be able to adequately fund essential public services,” said [Chairwoman Marcelia Nicholson](#).

The COVID-19 pandemic has already caused major disruption to Milwaukee County finances. Analysts [expect the 2021 budget gap to reach \\$100 million](#).

“Now is the time for the federal government to step in and protect the public from the coronavirus’s catastrophic effects on the fiscal health of the Milwaukee County,” said [Supervisor Joseph Czarnezki](#), Chair of the Intergovernmental Relations Committee.

In addition to \$100 million in lost revenue, the burden on Milwaukee County to provide services to 19 municipalities has led to rapidly mounting costs, including \$40 million in direct costs. County budget staff are projecting nearly \$450 million in overall costs.

“Milwaukee County needs support through additional flexible and direct funding to fight the pandemic. President Trump – let’s embrace this historic opportunity to work together to restart our economy the right way, and ensure that local governments can fulfill our obligations to our residents,” said [Supervisor Shawn Rolland](#).

Milwaukee County is on the frontline of the pandemic in Wisconsin, with nearly half the state’s infections and almost 60% of deaths, despite making up only 1/6 of the state’s total population.

Direct county services related to the Coronavirus pandemic include operating a regional 911 system, providing mental health, housing, and child welfare services, nutritional services for seniors, and leading the Unified Emergency Operations Center, which coordinates the inter-governmental response and operations among 19 municipalities and county government.

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