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## **MEDIA NEWS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **West Side Residents To Raise Crime Concerns With Police Chief On August 8<sup>th</sup>**

MADISON, WI -- Concerns about a variety of serious criminal activities and public safety issues have precipitated a face-to-face meeting between interested West side residents and Madison Police Chief Noble Wray. The meeting was organized by newly elected 20<sup>th</sup> District Alder Thuy Pham-Remmele, whose campaign for office focused on public safety and crime prevention. The meeting is scheduled for August 8<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 p.m. 8:00 p.m. in the Cafeteria of St Maria Goretti School at 5405 Flad Ave., just off Gilbert Rd.

“I look forward to my constituents having the opportunity to personally express to Chief Wray their concerns, many of which I have been contacted about from the moment people heard that I was running for City Council,” said Pham-Remmele. “ District 20 residents will present their concerns and personal experiences with shootings & other gun violence, property crimes (theft, vandalism...) graffiti & gang activities, drug trafficking, dangerous animal control, traffic & speeding violations, and inadequate police staffing while higher priority is given to Downtown and Allied Drive areas, resulting in too few officers to patrol/respond to residents' calls for help in my district.

I sincerely appreciate Chief Wray’s willingness to meet face-to-face with my constituents. I hope this will be but the first of more future meetings with the Chief and staff of the West Precinct Office to address these serious problems and work out remedies to solve them. I firmly believe my approach to address current problems in District 20 will set an example for other neighborhoods throughout the city.

My constituents will share our grave issues with Chief Wray and expect him & his staff to guide us in our fight to gain back our neighborhoods. We expect that in subsequent meetings Chief Wray will tell us how Madison Police Department will address our problems. I recognize that to increase police staffing requires additional dollars. However, Public safety is our topmost priority and must not be compromised. Chief Wray will directly hear clearly from my constituents that nothing is more important in the next City Budget than adequate police protection! I will share this same message with Mayor Dave and other alders at City Council's budget deliberations for next year which will begin soon.

Numerous constituents have told me, ‘If we took the money Mayor Dave and some alders want to spend on a Trolley system that refuses to die, we could staff a police force to serve and protect our entire city adequately.’

And, I do agree with that view,” Pham-Remmele concluded.