

MEMORANDUM

www.whitewater-wi.gov
Telephone: (262) 473-0104
Fax: (262) 222-5901

To: Common Council
From: John Weidl, City Manager
Date: May 29, 2024
Re: Discussion on Task Force to Evaluate Spring Splash

There is a recognized interest from the community, the university, and our elected officials to reimagine Spring Splash as an event that brings the university and the community closer together. Historically, Spring Splash has been an unsanctioned, off-campus party primarily associated with excessive drinking. From a law enforcement perspective, this event is extremely costly in terms of manpower and reliance on other agencies for mutual aid.

With that, there seems to be an opportunity to reimagine Spring Splash into something more community focused and offering additional event options.

Proposal:

Given the community input and the expressed desire by elected officials to address this topic, I propose that we discuss the creation of a task force to evaluate and provide recommendations for Spring Splash.

Composition:

- Determine the appropriate number of members for the task force (suggested range: 5-7 members).
- Ensure representation from key stakeholders, including community members, university officials, city representatives, and law enforcement.

Application and Vetting Process:

- Discuss the process for selecting task force members.
- Historically, applicants interview with the City Manager and Common Council President for recommendation to the governing body.

Goals and Objectives:

- Identify the primary goals for the task force, such as enhancing community-university relations and ensuring the event is safe and inclusive.

General Rules and Structure:

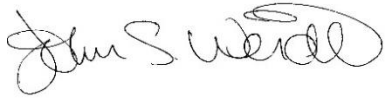
- Consider how the task force will operate, including meeting frequency and reporting requirements.

Action Requested:

I request the Common Council to discuss the formation of a task force to evaluate Spring Splash, focusing on the points outlined above. Your input will be essential in facilitating this discussion and determining the best approach to proceed.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best-

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John S. Weidl". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" and last name "Weidl" clearly distinguishable.

John S. Weidl, City Manager

JSW/RLM