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Date: December 15, 2022
To: Personnel and Finance Committee
From: Luis Bixler
             Director, Dane County Public Safety Communications (9-1-1)

Subject: Granting an Exception to Dane County Ordinance 20.16 – Prohibiting Travel to States that Discriminate
             for two PSC Technical Staff

Dane County Ordinance (DCO) 20.16 prohibits travel to states that have enacted a law that has the effect of voiding protections against discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression. Further, Dane County Ordinance 20.16(3)(c) and 20.21 provide that the Personnel and Finance Committee can grant exceptions to this prohibition.

This memo requests the Personnel and Finance Committee grant an exception to DCO 20.16 to allow Dane County Public Safety Communications to send two Public Safety Information Technology staff members to attend the CentralSquare Engage user conference in Nashville, Tennessee.

Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) software plays a central and vital role in how an emergency communications center functions. This software is used to gather information from an incoming caller, recommend the appropriate response, relay vital information to field unit computers, and track call activity as help arrives and assists the caller. Dane County Public Safety Communications CAD software is called Enterprise CAD from CentralSquare Technologies.

CentralSquare Engage is our CAD vendor's yearly user conference that provides attendees three days' of keynotes and education sessions. These sessions provide insight to future enhancements, topics affecting the public safety industry, technical overviews of functionality and new features and user roundtables that allow our agency to directly weigh in on the future of the software. The conference also provides a unique networking opportunity to attendees as the software is used world-wide and is the event is attended by thousands of users. There is no alternative event that provides this training and networking opportunities and this is the only such event held by the vendor annually.

If approved, Zach Kroll and Josh Kysely would travel to Nashville for this event June 4th to June 7th, 2023.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Please let me know if you have any questions.