

Milwaukee Ald. Coggs: Council overrides mayoral veto of COP house initiative

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With the Mayor's signing of the last of the 2019 budget amendments, we now have a completed 2019 city budget. I would like to thank my Common Council colleagues for their hard work throughout the budget process and their solid support in overriding Mayor Tom Barrett's veto of the COP house initiative I sponsored and the Council approved as part of the 2019 adopted city budget.

The initiative will establish four neighborhood COP (**C**ommunity **O**riented **P**olicing) houses in areas that need additional attention in terms of overall crime reduction and community improvement. The centers will be operated in partnership with the Milwaukee Promise Zones organizations, the Milwaukee Police Department and others.

COP houses have been shown to increase police-community engagement and positive interaction while reducing neighborhood crime and it is my strong hope that Milwaukee can see an overall improvement in quality of life in areas served by the COP houses.

I look forward to working closely with my colleagues, the Milwaukee Police Department and our partner organizations as we establish these first-ever Milwaukee COP houses.