

Title: Public Policy Forum Collection

Reference Code: Mss-1105

Inclusive Dates: 1911 – 1985

Quantity: 0.8 cu. ft.

Location: WHS, Sh. B022

Abstract: The Public Policy Forum is a Milwaukee-based organization founded in 1910 to promote fiscal responsibility in city and county government. It was originally called the Bureau of Economy and Efficiency, but the name was changed to Milwaukee Citizens Bureau of Municipal Efficiency in 1913 and to the Citizens Bureau of Milwaukee in 1921. The name changed again in 1946 to the Citizens Governmental Research Bureau, which remained until 1987 when it took the present name of the Public Policy Forum.

Scope and Content: The collection includes annual reports, minutes, correspondence, bulletins and published reports.

Access and Use: No restrictions

Language: English

Arrangement:

| Folder Heading | Box # | File # |
|--|--------------|---------------|
| Research Reports – Miscellaneous <ul style="list-style-type: none">- <i>1914-1916 Report on the Use of Municipal Vehicles</i>- <i>1920-1929 Milwaukee's Major Financial Transactions</i>- <i>Miscellaneous Revenues of 16 Municipalities</i>- <i>Survey of Business and Governmental Finance</i>- <i>Reports and Exhibits on Municipal Finance</i>- <i>1922-1931 Operations in Milwaukee</i>- <i>1931-1936 Report on County Relief</i>- <i>1938 Milwaukee's Police Department</i>- <i>1939 Highway Legislation Recommended</i>- <i>1941 "Local Governments in Milwaukee County Should Drop WPA"</i>- <i>1947 Long Term Improvement Program for County</i>- <i>Proposed Organization to Consolidate the Accounting, Stenographic, Clerical and Filing Work of the Department of Public Works</i> | 1 | 1 |
| Bulletins – Citizens Governmental Research Bureau, 1947-1985 (not inclusive) | 1 | 2 |
| Miscellaneous – Special Reports | 1 | 3 |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1911 No. 1 <i>Plan and Methods</i> - June 1911 No. 2 <i>Alarm Telegraph Systems</i> - June 1911 No. 4 <i>Women's Wages in Milwaukee</i> - June 1911 No. 5 <i>The Refuse Incinerator</i> - Jan. 15, 1912 No. 12 <i>Garbage Collection</i> - Sept. 1, 1911 No. 6 <i>Citizens Free Employment Bureau</i> - Oct. 30, 1911 No. 7 <i>Free Legal Aid</i> - Dec. 15, 1911 No. 10 <i>Plumbing and House Drain Inspection</i> - Dec. 30, 1911 No. 11 <i>Water Works Efficiency-1. Water Wastes Survey</i> - Feb. 15, 1912 No. 14 <i>Water Works Efficiency-2. Present Capacity and Future Requirements</i> - March 15, 1912 No. 16 <i>Water Works Efficiency-3. Operating Efficiency</i> - Jan. 30, 1912 No. 13 <i>Health Dept.-1. Milk Supply</i> - Feb. 29, 1912 No. 15 <i>Health Dept.-2. Education and Publications</i> - April 15, 1912 No. 18 <i>Health Dept.-3. Communicable Diseases</i> - April 15, 1912 No. 19 <i>Eighteen Months Work</i> - April 1913 <i>Preliminary Survey of Certain Departments of the City of Milwaukee</i> - March 1915 <i>A Report to the Public</i> - 1914-1915 <i>Ash Collection in Milwaukee</i> - 1916 <i>The Street Lighting Question-A Summary</i> - Feb. 1918 <i>Discussions of Referendum Relating to Reorganization of the Common Council</i> - Aug. 1924 <i>A New Charter [Milwaukee's Urgent Problem] Advisability of Proportional Representation-City Manager Type of Government</i> - List of Trustees, 1914-1922 - Copy of Norman Gill's talk to Milwaukee Civic Alliance, 1968 - 75th anniversary history and luncheon program - Programs, Shared Governance Awards, 1988 (2 copies) | | |
| Annual Reports, Minutes, etc. | 2 | 4 |
| Correspondence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Milwaukee Citizen's Bureau of Municipal Efficiency to Mayor Gerhard Bading, Nov. 27, 1915 (includes minutes of meeting of Mayor's Advisory Commission on Finance) - Citizen's Bureau to Mayor Dan Hoan, Sept. 28, 1922, re meeting of Dr. Theisen from School Board and Mr. Henderson with North Milwaukee officials on school building in that area - Citizen's Bureau to Mayor Hoan, Oct. 21, 1922, re concerns raising money for Bureau to go to Madison to study State budget and fiscal policy - M.F. Cudahy to Mayor Hoan, June 11, 1928, re actual benefit of Citizen's Bureau - Mayor Hoan to John Davis, Citizen's Bureau, June 29, 1932, re | 2 | 5 |

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| <p>concerns City Attorney joining some lawsuit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Citizen's Bureau to George J. Hermann, Chairman of Milwaukee County Highway Commission, Jan. 3, 1938 re county's audit of State Highway Dept. - Citizen's Bureau to Alderman Chas. W. O'Connor, Chairman of Streets and Alleys Commission, Jan. 3, 1938, re Council authorization of a survey and audit of highway appropriates by Federal and State governments - Citizen's Bureau to Board of Estimates, Oct. 6, 1944 re Bureau's reaction to creation of tax stabilization fund - 1926 Facts as to the Estimated Cost of the Cedar-Biddle Streets Widening Projects. Based on a report prepared by the Public Land Commission to the Directors and Subscribers of the Citizen's Bureau of Milwaukee | | |
| <p>Mimeographed Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1922 Outline for development of financial plan sent to Mayor Hoan - 1923 News release on Cleveland Common Council election - 1923 Further report on Cleveland election - 1932 Harbor bond issue opposed - 1932 Criticism against Milwaukee State tax burden - 1933 "Should Milwaukee Borrow From Uncle Sam" - 1939 Reduction of City Taxes - 1940 "School Boards Financial Difficulties" - 1941 "City Budget Opportunity" - 1943 Criticism of County bonus plan - 1944 Crime statistics in 25 largest U.S. cities - 1944 City's delinquent tax reserves - 1946 "Modern Government for a Grown-Up Milwaukee" | 2 | 6 |
| <p>"Seminar on Inter-governmental Cooperation to the MSC" "Celebrating 75 Years of Service"</p> | 2 | 7 |