

November 16, 2010

Milwaukee Common Council City Hall, Room 205 200 E. Wells St. Milwaukee, WI 53202-3591

RE: Proposed Downtown Marriott Hotel

Dear Common Council Members,

As president of the Greater Milwaukee Association of REALTORS®, I am writing to communicate our strong support for the proposed redevelopment project that would bring a privately financed, \$50 million Marriott hotel to Downtown Milwaukee. GMAR strongly supports this project, and we urge that the Council give it serious consideration for approval.

As we all know well, Milwaukee and the rest of the nation are still stuck in the worst economic slump of the last 60 years. It is important for us to stimulate a stable, growing economy. We believe this project can provide some of the positive economic growth that Milwaukee needs.

The Downtown Marriott would add roughly \$2.2 million to Milwaukee's annual tax base, is completely privately financed and requires no government funding. It would also create hundreds of jobs, including more than 200 permanent jobs and nearly 450 construction jobs.

The approval of this project will undoubtedly lead to other development, stronger local businesses and positive economic growth overall. The Greater Milwaukee Association of REALTORS® strongly supports the Downtown Marriott and hopes that you will give serious consideration to supporting this important redevelopment project for our community.

Sincerely,

Mike Ruzicka President



