

From: Julia O'Connor [<mailto:mudshark444@gmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 07, 2015 11:48 AM
To: Witkowski, Terry
Cc: Murphy, Michael (Alderman); Mayor Tom Barrett
Subject: I support the Streetcar and hope you will too.

Letter attached.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Julia

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154 W Tripoli Ave
Milwaukee, WI 53207
7 January 2015
The Honorable Terry Witkowski
13th District Alderman
200 East Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI 53207
Dear Alderman Witkowski:

I am writing to reiterate my support for the Milwaukee Streetcar project. Transit not involving cars has been discussed for years in Milwaukee and it has been enormously frustrating to visit other urban centers where far more expansive projects have extended their connections generating economic development, employment opportunities and a vibrant relationship between cities and suburbs. It's astonishing that we don't have callouses on our thumbs for all the twiddling that's been done in this regard.

I won't repeat all the obvious advantages of this project - you are fully briefed. All the wonderful development in the Gateway can be further enhanced when travelers have mobility options, people have residential and employment opportunities and neighborhoods benefit from complementary development of business and services. Our City will be the better for it.

When we moved to Milwaukee I recall the welcome signs telling me that 630,000+ people lived here. We've lost more than 100,000 since then. Transportation – or rather the lack of attention to the broad spectrum of transportation will be the further undoing of a once proud municipality.

Please resist the pressure of those who claim these developments are unnecessary. Their frozen devotion to parochialism and asphalt, while other economic regions attend to the work of the future and attract away our graduates is a selfish and narrow view. This is not a future I would stay for either.

Relying on your best judgment, I am

Sincerely yours,
Julia O'Connor
Resident and Neighborhood Volunteer
Cc: Mayor Tom Barrett
Council President Michael Murphy