

*Friends of*

**HANK AARON**   
**STATE TRAIL**

[www.hankaaronstatetrail.org](http://www.hankaaronstatetrail.org)

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Friends of Hank Aaron State Trail is a  
501 (C)(3) nonprofit organization.  
*All donations are tax deductible.*

December 13, 2011

City of Milwaukee Public Works Committee  
Ald. Robert Bauman, Chair  
200 East Wells Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Committee members,

On behalf of the Friends of the Hank Aaron State Trail (FOHAST), I am writing to ask for your support in seeing through the completion of the Airline Yards development, a critical component of the Hank Aaron State Trail development and a vital resource to Trail users.

The Hank Aaron State Trail now extends across Milwaukee County, from Lakeshore State Park over 10 miles to meet with the Oak Leaf Trail at the Milwaukee / Waukesha County Line in Underwood Creek Parkway. The Trail has proved to be an invaluable commuting route for residents throughout the City of Milwaukee, as well as a recreational amenity. More than 400,000 people live within a 3-mile bike ride of the Hank Aaron State Trail, and of those, more than 100,000 are under the age of 18. The Trail provides a healthy and safe recreation opportunity for the all residents in our community.

The project before you, the Airline Yards and bridge project, extends the Hank Aaron State Trail to the Mitchell Park Domes and creates a natural area along the banks of the Menomonee River. This development will transform this brownfield into an amenity for residents throughout the region. The addition of the programming provided by Urban Ecology Center will make this an outdoor learning laboratory for school children from Milwaukee neighborhoods, especially those on the near south side.

As the President of FOHAST, I am appreciative of the leadership City officials have provided to the Trail over the years. As a sign of our partnership, FOHAST has contributed \$50,000 toward the endowment for the long-term maintenance of this site once it becomes part of the Trail.

On behalf of all the members of FOHAST and users of the Hank Aaron State Trail, I look forward to continued partnership from the City of Milwaukee.

Sincerely,

Sincerely, 

Mike Brady  
President