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December 10, 2009

To the Honorable Committee on Finance & Personnel of the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee Room 205 – City Hall

Re: CCFN 091069 – A resolution establishing pre-tax

payroll deduction for employee paid pension contributions

Dear Committee Members:

Enclosed is a substitute resolution and appropriate fiscal note establishing pre-tax payroll deduction for employee paid pension contributions.

The Common Council has approved labor contracts with various city unions that require new employees who commence city employment on or after January 1, 2010, to pay 5.5% of their earnable compensation as a contribution to the Employes' Retirement System, in lieu of the city making the contribution on their behalf. This requirement has also been imposed on nonrepresented/nonmanagement employees and management employees commencing city employment next year via amendments to Chapter 36 of the Charter. In conjunction with this requirement, this resolution provides for the implementation of section 414(h)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code to make the memberpaid contributions a pre-tax payroll deduction under that section.

An amendment to Chapter 36 has also been introduced to document this change. Passage of this resolution, however, will ensure that the pre-tax deduction can commence on January 1, 2010, because the resolution will be adopted before that date.

Very truly yours,

GRANT F. LANGLEY City Attorney

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