

Lee, Chris

From: Dimitrijevic, Marina
Sent: Wednesday, October 8, 2025 12:53 PM
To: Zamarripa, JoCasta; Lee, Chris
Cc: Brower, Alex
Subject: Re: Comments for the Public Budget Hearing 10/6/2025

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From: Zamarripa, JoCasta <JoCasta@milwaukee.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, October 8, 2025 12:43:17 PM
To: Dimitrijevic, Marina <Marina@milwaukee.gov>
Cc: Brower, Alex <Alex.Brower@milwaukee.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Comments for the Public Budget Hearing 10/6/2025

Good afternoon, Chairwoman-

Can you please add these comments re:the budget to the file from city worker, Carmen Fendt?

Thank you!

JoCasta

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Carmen Fendt <wwfendt@gmail.com>
Date: October 6, 2025 at 10:00:18 PM CDT
To: "Zamarripa, JoCasta" <JoCasta@milwaukee.gov>, "Brower, Alex" <Alex.Brower@milwaukee.gov>
Subject: Comments for the Public Budget Hearing 10/6/2025

Good Evening,

I am producing my comments here, if they cannot be included in the meeting for 10/6 I hope you still consider them:

1. Support for a citywide raise
2. Find ways to make overinflated police budgets pay for real safety improvements—traffic calming, tearing down condemned houses, financial aid/housing to homeless people, etc. if we have to fund the police, find ways to make the police improve the lives of everyday people in real, meaningful ways.
3. Find ways to shifts costs from owner occupied properties (families) to rental properties and commercial properties:
 1. The largest issue here may actually come from assessments—while residential assessments rise year after year, some major commercial buildings have seen their assessments be almost completely frozen. In 2015, properties like the US Bank Building/Baird Center (777 E Wisconsin Ave) paid \$5,446,591 for property taxes. In 2023 they paid \$4,196,190—a decrease of about 1.2 million dollars that was then shouldered by the rest of the city. Major corporations should be paying their fair share of taxes—not getting subsidized by everyday working people.
 2. We could also increase property registration fees for non-owner-occupied single family and duplex properties, and increase the property registration costs for 3+ unit properties, seeing as so many of our rental properties are owned by out-of-state landlords intent on milking the city dry.
 3. Lastly, we should see if there's any possibility of instituting some form of rent control to also assist with rising housing costs.