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September 8, 2005

R. Gray Mitchem, Chair
City Plan Commission
Milwaukee Department of City Development
809 N. Broadway
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Alderman Michael S. D'Amato, Chair
Zoning, Neighborhoods and Development Committee
City of Milwaukee
200 E. Wells Street
Room 201
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Sirs:

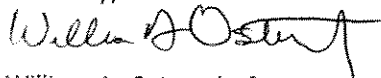
I am writing in regard to the Forest County Potawatomi Community's request for a zoning change from the City of Milwaukee. It is my understanding that the Potawatomi would like to expand operations at their center in the Menomonee Valley and that a zoning change is required for this expansion.

As a member of Milwaukee metropolitan community, I urge you to support the Potawatomi's request for this zoning change. The Milwaukee area is in dire need of employment opportunities for its citizens. I have worked as a consultant in the human resources field for the last 20 years, and during that time I have seen a huge loss of jobs among companies that have closed their doors for various economic reasons. During that time, there have only been a few organizations that have come into this community offering thousands of new employment opportunities to Milwaukee residents. The Potawatomi have been able to offer steady employment to thousands of our collective family members, friends, and neighbors. Through the proposed expansion, it is their intention to offer yet more opportunities to citizens in the Milwaukee area. The numbers I have seen suggest that there may be as many 1,000 new jobs that are directly added to their workforce. There are additional employment opportunities associated with the planned construction activity and with ancillary services that will be needed to support this expansion.

The Potawatomi have been an important part of our community in ways beyond the creation of new jobs. I have personally seen the effects of the Potawatomi's willingness to support community organizations in my role as a member of the board of directors for the Bay View Community Center (BVCC). The BVCC provides support to many residents of the City of Milwaukee through programs such as its food pantry, its holiday toy and gift distribution, and its senior citizen luncheons. The BVCC could not be an active part of the community without substantial support from groups like the Potawatomi. I know that the BVCC is only one among the many non-profit organizations that the Potawatomi have supported.

It is my belief that the Potawatomi have been willing to invest in the community in many ways. I encourage you to support their efforts to enhance this investment by supporting their request for the zoning change.

Sincerely,



William A. Osterndorf