

Ceella, Jessica

From: Bauman, Robert
Sent: Tuesday, December 09, 2014 10:52 AM
To: Lee, Chris; Ceella, Jessica
Subject: Fwd: Streetcar Support

Please add to the three files

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Stacie Callies <stacie@westown.org>
Date: December 9, 2014 at 9:50:50 AM CST
To: 'Robert Bauman' <rjbauma@milwaukee.gov>, <mmurph@milwaukee.gov>, <ahamil@milwaukee.gov>, <jldavis@milwaukee.gov>, <nkovac@milwaukee.gov>, <jbohl@milwaukee.gov>, <mcoggs@milwaukee.gov>, <wwade@milwaukee.gov>, <rpuent@milwaukee.gov>, <jdudzi@milwaukee.gov>, "Zielinski, Tony" <tzieli@milwaukee.gov>, <russell.stamper@milwaukee.gov>, <jperez@milwaukee.gov>, <twitko@milwaukee.gov>, <rdonov@milwaukee.gov>
Subject: Streetcar Support
Reply-To: <stacie@westown.org>

Members of the Common Council:

The Westown Association, BID #5, representing property and business owners in downtown Milwaukee's central business district west of the Milwaukee River, would like to join with other community groups and organizations in supporting Mayor Barrett's \$123.9 million streetcar plan as an important component of a multi-modal, comprehensive transit system for the City of Milwaukee.

The Westown Association board of directors believes that the streetcar project will make a significant impact on the transportation needs and overall economic development in the downtown area. Beyond the project's catalytic economic development impacts, the streetcar has the potential to alleviate traffic congestion and parking issues, increase access to downtown Milwaukee's many cultural and entertainment amenities as well as connect people with available jobs including the growing millennial segment - that are frequently choosing public transportation over car ownership. Furthermore, during the Westown Association's last strategic planning session, many stakeholders identified transportation as the single most important strategic initiative impacting the future of economic development in downtown Milwaukee.

The Westown area is on the verge of some potential changes that will permanently change the landscape of our downtown neighborhood. With a rapidly growing residential base, a potential new sports and entertainment facility, strong efforts to revitalize West Wisconsin Avenue and continued redevelopment of The Brewery and former Park East areas, it is imperative that we have an efficient means of connecting and circulating people in this rapidly developing segment of the city. Because many of the future route extensions in the proposed streetcar plan are in close proximity to many of the items mentioned above, we know that the streetcar project will only help to support the development efforts that are underway.

We look forward to continued collaboration and communication with the City of Milwaukee on the streetcar project as it moves forward.

Sincerely,

Stacie Callies
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