MICHAEL S. D'AMATO ALDERMAN, 3RD DISTRICT

ALDERMAN, 3RD DIST



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To: All Alderman

From: Alderman Michael D'Amato, 3rd District

Date: October 26, 2006

Re: Amendment for MPS maintenance

Attached please find a memo from MPS reflecting the likely impact of the City reducing their annual traditional borrowing capacity from \$10 million to \$4 million. As you know, for the past several years the City of Milwaukee has borrowed that \$10 million for MPS as part of a longstanding agreement because MPS does not have the authority to borrow those funds on their own. The Mayor has proposed reducing that commitment in 2007 by more than half.

Like most ideas to push back necessary maintenance items this is penny-wise and pound-foolish. Deferring necessary maintenance may look good politically but it costs more in the end and begins to erode the quality of our infrastructure. Remember, increasing future cost on MPS taxpayers is increasing costs on the same taxpayers we represent.

I intend on introducing an amendment to increase the borrowing authority to allow them to make these necessary basic improvements to their facilities. I would welcome each of you to be a co-sponsor. As you can see on the memo, these are not frivolous projects or new construction. Rather, they are meat and potato maintenance items that need to be done. The break down on page two includes a list of projects categorized by Aldermanic district. Delayed projects are expected in 13 of our 15 districts. The addition of \$1 million of borrowing authority equals an addition of approximately \$25,000 on the tax levy.

In the spirit of full disclosure, all 3 of my children attend 3 different MPS schools. None of those schools are scheduled to receive additional maintenance.

Thank you.



MILWAUKEE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DIVISION OF FACILITIES AND MAINTENANCE SERVICES

1124 North 11th Street P.O. Box 05259 Milwaukee, WI 53205-0259 Phone: (414) 283-4600 FAX: (414) 283-4682



October 20, 2006

Members of the Common Council City of Milwaukee City Hall, Room 205 200 East Wells Street Milwaukee, WI 53202-3570

Dear Alderman D'Amato:

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed 2007 reduction in city borrowing for MPS capital maintenance requirements. The proposed city budget contains a 60% reduction from 2005 levels in borrowing for MPS capital maintenance needs. This reduction would cause our capital maintenance program to drop into a state of deferred maintenance until 2016, assuming city funding remained stable.

These projects would be rescheduled beginning in 2012. As I am sure you are well aware, it is generally a better fiscal practice to provide timely maintenance to buildings than to allow them to deteriorate to a point where they would require costly and extensive repairs.

MPS already intended to reduce its request for city borrowing beginning in 2007. The schedule below shows the district's planned requests:

2007 - \$8.0 million	2010 - \$6.0 million	2013 - \$2.1 million	2016 - \$0 million
2008 - \$6.3 million	2011 - \$5.0 million	2014 - \$1.8 million	
2009 - \$7.4 million	2012 - \$2.4 million	2015 - \$0.9 million	

The projects we have elected to defer, if the current budget proposal is approved, will have the least impact on the on the integrity of the buildings, but they will have a great affect on the public's perception of our facilities. Please find attached, per aldermanic request, a list of projects that would be deferred under the proposed budget. MPS will continue to maintain the most critical infrastructure components, such as roofs, masonry, HVAC, etc. The district also continues to levy for its Construction Fund at the statutory maximum of 0.6 mills.

I would like to thank all of you for your past and continued support of our capital program. Without the city's assistance, MPS buildings would not be in the good condition they are in today. I ask for your consideration during your budget deliberations for anything you may be able to do to keep this city's public schools from slipping into deferred maintenance.

Sincerely,

Richard W. Moore, P.E.

Director of Facilities and Maintenance Services

ul W. Moore

RWM:som

Attachment

cc: W. Andrekopoulos; M. Nate; M. Nicolini

MPS - DEFERRED PROJECTS RESULTING FROM CITY FUNDING REDUCTION

	Ė		TOTAL					2011 Total
)) (12,700,000)) (1,000,000)	(1,000,000)		WALKER MIDDLE SCHOOL	an 065	Donovan	œ	2011
	. [(1,000,000	WINDOW ASSEMBLIES		┞			2010 Total
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		(101,000)	DOORS-EXTERIOR	CASS STREET SCHOOL	+	7		2009 Total
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		(25,000)	PARKING LOT-ASPHALT	TANKED CHOOL	╀	Wade	7	2009
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