



January 20th, 2015

Honorable Mayor Barrett
Office of the Mayor
City Hall
200 E. Wells St, Room 201
Milwaukee, WI 53202

THOMAS BALANOFF
President

LAURA GARZA
Secretary-Treasurer

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SERVICE EMPLOYEES
INTERNATIONAL UNION
CLC

Dear Mayor Barrett,

On behalf of the membership of SEIU Local 1 we would like to offer our endorsement and wholehearted support of the proposed Milwaukee streetcar line. The streetcar represents an opportunity for Milwaukee on multiple levels, first and foremost as a means of transportation to and from work, school and in general, an easy way of getting around the city minus the hassle of parking and more energy efficient than busses or cars. The project must be viewed with a long term vision. Although the initial route is relatively short, it represents an opportunity to add onto and expand service lines out into all parts of the city, providing a potential means of transportation for central city residents, including our members, the majority of whom work downtown.

Furthermore, the streetcar is also an opportunity to attract more development downtown, more businesses and residents means more jobs, a stronger tax base and a vibrant downtown.

Lastly, if Milwaukee aspires to be a world class city, we need a variety of transportation options that reflect this. The streetcar is an important step in this direction, one which we can't afford to let pass us by.

Please let us know how we can be of further assistance with this issue.

Sincerely,

Dave Somerscales
Wisconsin Coordinator
SEIU Local 1

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