



January 20th, 2015

The Honorable Tom Barrett  
City of Milwaukee – Office of the Mayor  
200 E. Wells Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Alderwoman Milele A. Coggs  
200 E. Wells Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53202

The Harambee Great Neighborhood Initiative (HGNI) has at the center of its mission a goal to improve the overall quality of life for residents in the Harambee community. In particular, the HGNI aims to achieve its mission by supporting, encouraging, and empowering residents to organize and influence the direction of positive change in the community.

As a result of an in-depth community planning process, the Harambee Great Neighborhood Initiative Steering Committee developed, in partnership with community residents and stakeholders, the Harambee Neighborhood Action Plan (NAP). This plan focused on resident and stakeholder input to direct the goals and mission of the Initiative. As a result of this planning process, nine (9) critical focus areas were defined as being vital to the revitalization efforts in the Harambee community. Those nine focus areas were defined by the following:

- Neighborhood Image
- Housing Market
- Physical Conditions
- Health and Environment
- Neighborhood Leadership
- Community Connections
- Employment and Workforce
- Public Safety
- Arts and Culture

With its commitment to improving the quality of life here in the Harambee community, the Harambee Great Neighborhood Initiative sends this letter of support to serve as our official endorsement of the current Milwaukee Streetcar proposal, to include the planned extension north on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive. We believe that a strong and dedicated multi-modal transportation system (with the streetcar being a key component) supports the Harambee Neighborhood Action Plan and its goal of improving the quality of life for Harambee residents, while increasing the potential for renewed economic development and reinvestment on a grand scale.

Sincerely,

J. Allen Stokes  
Coordinator  
Harambee Great Neighborhood Initiative

Leif Otteson  
Organizer  
Harambee Great Neighborhood Initiative