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FOR INFORMATION CALL

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Ald. Willie L. Hines, Jr.
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Common Council President Praises Approval Of Pabst, North End Projects

Ald. Hines Expects Numerous Economic Benefits for City

The Milwaukee Common Council today gave its unanimous support to two major developments in downtown Milwaukee, and Common Council President Willie L. Hines, Jr. said the city is poised to reap the economic benefits that both catalytic projects will bring.

Aldermen approved a \$29 million financing package to help Milwaukee investor Joseph Zilber redevelop the former 21-acre Pabst Brewery complex into housing, offices and retail space. And the council okayed an \$8 million package of city financing assistance for what is called The North End, a project which would ultimately create condos, apartments and retail space on the site of the former Pfister & Vogel tannery.

“I congratulate the Common Council for its foresight in approving proposals which could ultimately have a \$400 million impact in this important part of the city,” said Ald. Hines. “I also want to again thank real estate investor Joseph Zilber for his tremendous commitment.” Zilber has said the redevelopment will be his legacy to the city. Ald. Hines also praised the Mandel Group for the faith it has shown with its plans to redevelop the former tannery site, where construction could begin by next summer, as well as other projects throughout the city.

“The Brewery and North End projects and the investment by the city and private developers will prove to be the catalysts that bring new life to the entire Park East corridor,” said Ald. Hines. “I look forward with great anticipation to the rebirth of this prime real estate.”

(More)

Ald. Hines Praises Projects/ADD ONE

Under the tax incremental financing packages, the city will borrow money for the two developments and property taxes generated will repay the funds.

In another action today, the Common Council approved a plan that will encourage drivers to slow down on residential streets. The resolution creates a procedure in which residents could ask the city to install “traffic calming” devices in their neighborhoods. “Reckless driving and speeding in our neighborhoods takes away from our quality of life,” said Ald. Hines. “This plan will give residents a voice to regain control of their streets and enhance pedestrian and driver safety.”

The Department of Public Works will look at various traffic calming devices which could range from a “speed hump” to a mini roundabout or traffic circle. Residents would petition the city for the device, and be assessed to help pay for it.