

January 8, 2015

Common Council  
City of Milwaukee  
200 East Wells Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53202

RE: City of Milwaukee Streetcar Project


Dear Members of the City of Milwaukee Common Council:

By way of this letter, I'd like to express my *strong support* for the City of Milwaukee Streetcar Project. I've learned a great deal about this proposal in the last month and I sincerely believe that the proposed network of streetcars connecting key downtown and Bay View destinations would provide tremendous benefit to the City. Not only will the Milwaukee Streetcar provide enhanced access to key neighborhoods and destinations, the project will provide critical construction jobs and continued employment opportunities from operations.

As a developer of housing and commercial property in the City of Milwaukee, I'm deeply concerned about Milwaukee's transportation network. While we've made great strides to improve our bike lanes and pedestrian routes, to be a truly "multi-modal" City, we need to expand our public transit options beyond MCTS bus service. Every progressive (and successful!) metro area has an extensive multi-modal transportation network. Cities such as Minneapolis/St. Paul and Portland have great transportation networks that have spurred concentrated, high density development.

To implement major change -- a paradigm shift in thinking about transit -- the seed must be planted: the investment must be made now. While it may take many years for a successful system to evolve, nothing will happen if we don't start somewhere. I urge you to make the bold move to support the Milwaukee Streetcar project. It will pay dividends for many years to come.

Sincerely,  
*General Capital Group*



Sig Strautmanis