

In-Support



VIA FACSIMILE, EMAIL & US MAIL

April 27, 2006

Alderman Willie Hines
Steering and Rules Committee Chair
City Hall
200 E. Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202

RE: Milwaukee Connector

Dear Chairman Hines,

The Historic King Drive Business Improvement District ("BID") is proud to support the Locally Preferred Alternative for the Milwaukee Connector and we are ecstatic that Route #1 of the Guided Street Tram will connect our District to Downtown, The Third Ward, and thousands of new customers in many Milwaukee Neighborhoods.

Think of how exciting it will be when a prospective home owner, business owner, or other visitor to our great city is able to hop on Route #1 of the elegant guided tram system and pass by the Milwaukee Youth Arts Center, the International Headquarters of Manpower, through Downtown and into the Third Ward; Or patrons of the growing Gallery Night that can visit the galleries on King Drive and the 3rd Ward seamlessly and cap off the night with a show at Bucketworks on King Drive.

As you know, since 1990, our District has experienced more than \$200 Million in investment, and with the announcement of Manpower moving to the district, in the next five years we anticipate investment of at least \$200 Million more. Unfortunately, innovation, investment and commitment to mass transit have not kept pace with the investment of our property owners and business owners.

Many of our District's customers rely on public transportation. Even more importantly, we have seen an explosion in the residential market around our District, including the developments in Brewer's Hill, Commerce Street, the expansion of Halyard Park, the Park East Lofts project and the anticipation of more quality housing in the Bronzeville Targeted Investment Neighborhood. This residential explosion has been matched by other housing developments along the Northern part of Route 1, including Lindsay Heights and the planned Legacy Homes. We are building a critical mass of people that want to live in the city and want to have easy access to downtown and our business and cultural districts, like King Drive and the 3rd Ward.



We need a reliable system that these home owners, customers, businesses, and prospective new businesses can rely on. In 2005 eleven new businesses located on King Drive, because they see stability in the District and an opportunity to succeed. Already in 2006 three new businesses have located in the area and there have been announcements of 3 more. The momentum is here, and so is the opportunity to grow. The Connector is necessary for that growth.

We support Route #1 as depicted on the Milwaukee Connector study, and we do not support the Route # 1 Alternative that would go down 4th Street from Juneau to Walnut. We want the Connector on King Drive, so it can connect to the Manpower and Schlitz Park site, and the other businesses on King Drive. We also strongly support the parking mitigation plans to ensure that the parking lost along King Drive from Juneau to Walnut is replaced.

Thank you for your vision and leadership on this issue. We need the Connector, and we need the Connector on King Drive.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Teig Whaley-Smith". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Teig Whaley-Smith
Executive Director
Historic King Drive BID
teig@kingdrivebid.com

CC: BID Board Chair
Alderman Ashanti Hamilton, District 1
Alderman Joe Davis, Sr., District 2
Alderman Michael D'Amato, District 3
Alderman Robert Bauman, District 4
Alderman James Bohl, District 5
Alderman Michael McGee, Jr., District 6
Alderman Willie Wade, District 7
Alderman Robert Donovan, District 8
Alderman Robert Puente, District 9
Alderman Michael Murphy, District 10
Alderman Joe Dudzik, District 11
Alderman James Witkowiak, District 12
Alderman Terry Witkowski, District 13
Alderman Tony Zielinski, District 14
Mayor Tom Barrett



J. L. Little
Regional President
Wisconsin / Illinois / Michigan

Wells Fargo & Company
100 East Wisconsin Avenue
Suite 1200
Milwaukee, WI 53202-4107
414 224-3753
414 224-4363 Fax
j.lanier.little@wellsfargo.com

April 27, 2006

Common Council President Willie Hines
Steering and Rules Committee Chair
City Hall
200 East Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Alderman Hines:

Please accept this letter in support of the proposed Milwaukee Connector Project. Thank-you for introducing a resolution pledging the support of the Common Council for this important mass transit initiative. I have seen the positive impact that projects such as this have had on the economic development climate in other Wells Fargo cities, such as Minneapolis, Denver and Portland, and I am convinced that it would lead to the same positive impacts in Milwaukee. In addition to creating new jobs, the Connector would also make it easier for Milwaukee's citizens to travel to existing jobs and to take greater advantage of our city's educational, cultural, and recreational resources. I also believe that the Connector will enhance some of the Region's plans for other mass transit options, including commuter rail.

Thank-you for the leadership role that you and fellow Common Council members are taking on this initiative. I hope that you will see strong support from all segments of the community as they recognize the importance of this investment in the future of Milwaukee.

Best regards,

J. L. Little

JLL/ral

✓ cc: Terry J. MacDonald, Staff Assistant, City Clerk's Office

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Ken Leinbach



Visit us on the web
www.UrbanEcologyCenter.org



April 26, 2006

Common Council President Willie Hines
Steering and Rules Committee Chair
City Hall
200 E. Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Alderman Hines:

I am writing to express my support for the Milwaukee Connector and urge you and the Steering and Rules Committee to move forward with this public transit opportunity for Milwaukee. We cannot afford to lose the \$91 million in Federal Transportation Administration funds.

From an environmental perspective I wholeheartedly support the replacement of diesel-fueled buses with an electric guided street tram system that will be more efficient. With all of the new housing downtown and surrounding neighborhoods, it just makes sense to have a transit alternative that improves mobility for Milwaukee residents, visitors, workers and students.

We must reduce our dependence on the automobile and giving people choices is the only way to reduce that dependence. I truly believe that the future health of Milwaukee depends on providing this option.

Please move Milwaukee forward and vote to make the Milwaukee Connector the local preferred alternative.

Sincerely,

Ken Leinbach
Executive Director

URBAN ECOLOGY CENTER

Riverside Park 1500 E. Park Place • Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53211 • Phone: (414) 964-8505 • Fax: (414) 964-1084 • uec@urbanecologycenter.org

April 27, 2006

Common Council President Willie Hines
Steering and Rules Committee Chair
City Hall
200 East Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Alderman Hines:

Please accept this letter in support of the proposed Milwaukee Connector Project. Thank-you for introducing a resolution pledging the support of the Common Council for this important mass transit initiative. I have seen the positive impact that projects such as this have had on the economic development climate in other Wells Fargo cities, such as Minneapolis, Denver and Portland, and I am convinced that it would lead to the same positive impacts in Milwaukee. In addition to creating new jobs, the Connector would also make it easier for Milwaukee's citizens to travel to existing jobs and to take greater advantage of our city's educational, cultural, and recreational resources. I also believe that the Connector will enhance some of the Region's plans for other mass transit options, including commuter rail.

Thank-you for the leadership role that you and fellow Common Council members are taking on this initiative. I hope that you will see strong support from all segments of the community as they recognize the importance of this investment in the future of Milwaukee.

Best regards,

J. L. Little

JLL/ral

cc: Terry J. MacDonald, Staff Assistant, City Clerk's Office



Boulder Venture

*330 E. Kilbourn Ave.
Suite 1454
Milwaukee, WI 53202
ph 414.271.5385
fx 414.271.5387
theteam@boulderventure.com*

April 26, 2006

Honorable Willie Hines
President – Milwaukee Common Council
City Hall – Room 205
200 East Wells Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

Re: Milwaukee Connector

Dear Alderman Hines:

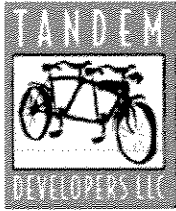
I am writing to express our support for the proposed Milwaukee Connector transit project. As a developer of commercial and residential real estate projects, I feel that this project will only benefit the fabric of the urban neighborhoods in which we are stakeholders.

Parking is always an issue in urban developments and attracting new retailers to Milwaukee. The Milwaukee Connector can provide these retailers a way to bring their customers to them without the use of a car or expensive parking decks, and we believe that retail development can be a catalyst for economic development.

Sincerely,

Robert Schmidt
President

*Denver
Ft. Lauderdale
Milwaukee
Phoenix
Tampa*



April 25, 2006

Common Council President Willie Hines
Steering and Rules Committee Chair
City Hall
200 E. Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Alderman Hines:

I am writing to express my strong support for the Milwaukee Connector and urge you and the Steering and Rules Committee to move forward with this public transit opportunity. Tandem Developers, LLC, has been actively developing residential projects close to downtown for the past 8 years, and we firmly believe in modern urban transit systems that will reduce dependence on automobiles. We also build in other Midwestern cities that have public transit systems, and in every case, these systems contribute to the vitality of the city and enhance the lives of the residents.

With all the new housing downtown and surrounding neighborhoods, it is imperative to provide a transit alternative that improves mobility for Milwaukee residents, visitors, workers and students. Younger workers, comprising the majority of first time condominium buyers, want new transit options that will be efficient and affordable. The Milwaukee Connector provides them with that alternative. In addition, reducing reliance on the automobile could allow future developments to reduce the amount of structured parking, which will ultimately make urban infill housing more affordable to a wider range of buyers.

Other cities of similar size--Minneapolis, Denver, Portland--have mass transit in place and they have seen an economic boom in the areas around the routes. We strongly believe that similar public infrastructure investments in Milwaukee could also produce amazing results.

Please move Milwaukee forward and vote to make the Milwaukee Connector the local preferred alternative.

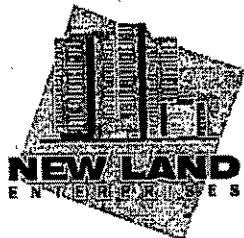
Sincerely,

Tandem Developers, LLC

Jonathan Dennis
V.P. Development and Acquisitions

414 N. Orleans St., Suite 202 Chicago, Illinois 60610

312.245.9000 312.245.9745 f.



Real Estate Acquisition | Development | Management

PO Box 511448 ♦ Milwaukee, WI 53203 ♦ Ph: 414.271.LAND ♦ Fax: 414.727.4612

www.NLEdevelopment.com

April 27, 2006

Dear President Hines,

As the owner of an increasing portfolio of buildings within the area that the Milwaukee Connector would serve, New Land Enterprises offers their strong support for the study. We feel that it's very important for Milwaukee to make this happen.

A cleaner, faster, mass transit system, such as the Milwaukee Connector, would enhance the appeal of living in the city, helping us continue to build in the future. It could also help decrease building costs in new developments as the need to build multiple parking spaces per unit may diminish. The money we save on parking could be reinvested into aesthetic features, public improvements, or more units in our developments, further improving the future of the City of Milwaukee.

There are very few developers in the city of Milwaukee that have invested as much as we have in the City over the last decade. With the help of the Connector we can continue to grow Milwaukee's tax base and improve the vibrant neighborhoods throughout the city.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Boris Gokhman". The signature is fluid and extends across the width of the page.

Boris Gokhman
Partner

From: Jeff Sherman <shrams@wi.rr.com>
To: <mmurph@milwaukee.gov>, "Michael D'AMATO" <mdamat@milwaukee.gov>, <whines@milwaukee.gov>, <jbohl@milwaukee.gov>, <rdonov@milwaukee.gov>, <rjbauma@milwaukee.gov>, <wwade@milwaukee.gov>, <jldavis@milwaukee.gov>, <ahamil@milwaukee.gov>, <mmcgee@milwaukee.gov>, <rpuent@milwaukee.gov>, <tzieli@milwaukee.gov>, <jdudzi@milwaukee.gov>, <jwitko@milwaukee.gov>, <twitko@milwaukee.gov>
Date: 4/26/2006 9:15:50 PM
Subject: Connector now!

Let's move Milwaukee forward with the Milwaukee Connector!

Milwaukee's second largest publication, OnMilwaukee.com, supports it. Shouldn't you? I do and many of my neighbors do too!

<http://onmilwaukee.com/politics/articles/milwconnector.html>

Jeff Sherman
108 W. Wells St. #3C
414-218-1108

CC: Eileen Force <EFORCE@milwaukee.gov>, <TMACDO@milwaukee.gov>

April 25, 2006

Common Council President Willie Hines
Steering and Rules Committee Chair
City Hall
200 E. Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Alderman Hines:


I am writing to express my support for the City of Milwaukee's resolution expressing the support for the Milwaukee Connector public transit project and urge you and the Steering and Rules Committee to move forward with this public transit opportunity for Milwaukee by supporting a Locally Preferred Alternative for the Milwaukee Connector.

As a former member of the Eastside Transportation Management Association, and current President of the Murray Hill Neighborhood Association, I personally have followed and supported the advancement of this transit project. An enhanced transit facility consisting of a guided street tram on a route that would include the densely populated and congested UWM and Eastside area would greatly benefit the area and the City.

Milwaukee needs to take steps forward to develop advanced modes of transportation. Ideally a system extending towards Racine, Waukesha, and Mequon would do much to better the quality of our air, and reduce traffic congestion and accidents. The current proposal, as limited as it is, would at least start to move the city in a positive direction rather than continue the known failed system of private vehicles and extensive expressways, surface streets and parking lots, all at the loss of developable land, neighborhoods, and public health.

In addition, the waste of \$91 million in public funds if we continue to do nothing is a dereliction of duty by the City, County and State, worthy of strong action by the citizens against our elected officials. It is time to move Milwaukee forward.

Respectfully Submitted,



J. Gerard Capell, AIA
President Murray Hill Neighborhood Association

cc: Alderman Michael D'Amato
Supervisor Gerry Broderick
MHNA Board

From: Salem Eastside <salemeast@sbcglobal.net>
To: <mdamat@milwaukee.gov>
Date: 4/27/2006 5:36:30 AM
Subject: Milwaukee Connector transit project---Common Council Steering Committee

April 27, 2006

Good Morning, Alderman D'Amato,

I want to encourage you to work through the Common Council Steering Committee to promote a thorough public discussion of the matter before the Committee today---the Milwaukee Connector public transit project.

I believe the monumental investment in freeways in our city and county over the past 50 years has favored the automobile over people and life in communities and neighborhoods by its insatiable consumption of private property, in its disruption of social institutions, retail districts, and residential neighborhoods, and by its negative effect on the quality of our environment. Investment in freeways seems only to lead to demand for more.

It's time for us to have a serious look at more efficient, more people-friendly and environment-friendly modes of transit.

Thanks for your support of a real public discussion of the matter.

Sincerely,
James R. Sonnemann
2412 N. Cramer Street
Milwaukee, WI 53211
(414) 803-1306

CC: <TMACDO@milwaukee.gov>

Salem Lutheran Church

KahlerSlater

April 18, 2006

Common Council President Willie Hines
Steering and Rules Committee Chair
City Hall
200 E. Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Alderman Hines:

I am writing to express support for the Milwaukee Connector project. As a small business owner of a firm that has been a part of the Milwaukee community since 1908, and as co-chair, with Steve Marcus, of the Greater Milwaukee Committee's Quality of Life Committee, I believe this project is good for business and good for the community.

You know that strong communities make for strong business environments. As Milwaukee grows and develops, so too does our business. While Milwaukee has made progress in a number of areas in the past several years, one element we are lacking in our community is an approach to transit that is clean, safe, and offers a multitude of travel options for our diverse downtown population. While I, and our employees, very much appreciate our award-winning Milwaukee County Transit Bus System, we believe that it would be even more valuable if it were part of a coordinated and well-integrated transit plan that included an electric guided tram system.

As a business leader, my firm's efforts to attract and retain top talent are tied to the success of Milwaukee as an attractive community in which to work. As the research of experts such as Dr. Richard Florida and Rebecca Ryan indicates, "Generation X" workers of the future have very different expectations of their future careers. This group of future workers will choose the community in which they want to live before they choose the organization for which they want to work. Therefore, the attractiveness of Milwaukee no longer matters mostly to those whose job it is to attract tourists to our area. Milwaukee's attractiveness as a growing city in which to live, learn, work and play is critical to our viability as a business located here. And as shifting demographics predict a severe shortage of workers by 2007, we're

111 West Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53203-2501
Phone 414-272-2000
Fax 414-272-2001

110 King Street
Madison, WI 53703-3314
Phone 608-283-6300
Fax 608-283-6317

www.kahlerslater.com

going to need every amenity we can to attract and retain top talent in our community, as we compete with other communities which already have a lot going for them, including a variety of transportation options.

Please move Milwaukee forward and vote to make the Milwaukee Connector the local preferred alternative. We cannot afford to lose the \$91 million in Federal Transportation Administration funds. This project will allow Milwaukee to continue its current renaissance, so that we may once again claim our place as a progressive city which looks to the future rather than remaining in the past. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jill Morin", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jill Morin
Executive Officer
Kahler Slater

RESOLUTION

Be it hereby resolved that the Board of Directors of the Historic Third Ward Association strongly supports the concept of mass transit for the Milwaukee area in general and the Historic Third Ward in particular; however neither supports nor opposes either current proposal before the Milwaukee Common Council. The board would support the implementation of a strategic study to find a cost-effective way to develop a mass transit system in the Milwaukee area that can be proven through a pilot program.

Passed by the Board of Directors of the Historic Third Ward Association at a regular meeting held April 12, 2006 at the offices of the Historic Third Ward Association, 219 N. Milwaukee St., 3rd floor, Milwaukee, WI 53202.



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
JON RICHARDS

SERVING MILWAUKEE'S
EAST SIDE, DOWNTOWN AND
BAY VIEW NEIGHBORHOODS

To: Terry MacDonald

FAX: 414-286-3456

Re: steering and Rules Committee
Milwaukee Connector

CAPITOL

P.O. Box 8953, Madison, WI 53708 • (608) 266-0650 • Fax: (608) 282-3619
Email: rep.richards@legis.state.wi.us Toll-free: 1-888-534-0019

HOME

1823 North Oakland Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53202 • (414) 270-9898



April 25, 2006

Common Council President Willie Hines
Steering and Rules Committee Chair
City Hall
200 East Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Alderman Hines,

I am writing to express my support for the Milwaukee Connector and urge you and the Steering and Rules Committee to move forward with this public transit opportunity for Milwaukee. We cannot afford to lose the \$91 million in Federal Transportation Administration funds.

Although I supported the recent repeal of automatic indexing for motor fuel taxes, I am mindful of the change possibly stretching our state's transportation budget. Starting in the next state budget, there may be ever increasing pressure to use this \$91 million for road construction, maintenance or rehabilitation or to fund current mass transit operations. I believe, therefore, that Milwaukee should move quickly and decisively to use the funds already earmarked for the Connector.

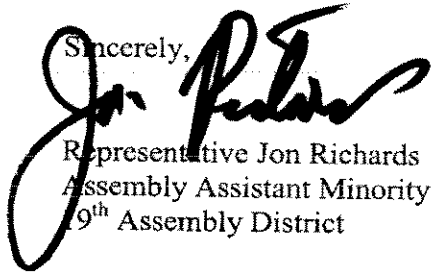
I wholeheartedly support the replacement of diesel-fueled buses with an electric guided street tram system that will be more efficient. With all of the new housing downtown and in surrounding neighborhoods, it just makes sense to have a transit alternative that improves mobility for Milwaukee residents, visitors, workers and students. Younger workers want transit options and this will give them that option. We need to retain a young workforce in Milwaukee.

Other cities of similar size – Minneapolis, Denver, Portland – have transit in place and they have seen an economic boom in the areas around the routes.

We must reduce our dependence on the automobile and giving people choices is the only way to reduce that dependence. I truly believe that the future health of Milwaukee depends on providing this option.

Please move Milwaukee forward and vote to make the Milwaukee Connector the local preferred alternative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jon Richards". The signature is stylized with a large, looping initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Representative Jon Richards
Assembly Assistant Minority Leader
19th Assembly District

JR:jjk

From: "John J. Holz" <jholz@prarch.com>
To: "Michael D'AMATO" <MDAMAT@milwaukee.gov>, <whines@milwaukee.gov>, <jwitko@milwaukee.gov>, <mmurph@milwaukee.gov>, <rdonov@milwaukee.gov>, <jldavis@milwaukee.gov>, <rjbauma@milwaukee.gov>
Date: 4/27/2006 9:36:11 AM
Subject: Position Statement: The American Institute of Architects Southeast Wisconsin Chapter Endorses the Implementation of The Milwaukee Connector

Members of the Steering Committee,

On behalf of the 750 architect and affiliated members of the AIA Southeast Wisconsin, we endorse the implementation of the Milwaukee Connector as a significant transportation improvement and community development vehicle for the city of Milwaukee. As advocates for Livable Communities, we believe that this addition to our transportation infrastructure will enhance the quality of life for our citizens. The electric powered trams and series of linked stations exhibit design on a human scale, by reinforcing compact, pedestrian-friendly communities. Importantly, Milwaukee's population density would be well served by such a system. We believe these tram lines will provide real choices to residents and visitors in linking them with housing, shopping, recreation, and employment. Variety creates lively neighborhoods and districts. We believe these tram lines will contribute to the preservation of our urban center, by taking advantage of existing streets, services, and buildings which helps to curb sprawl and promote stability for city neighborhoods. Furthermore, giving people the option to travel via guided tram offers a reduction in traffic congestion and air pollution. This represents a sincere effort to protect our environmental resources. Finally, we believe the implementation of the Milwaukee Connector and its intermodal linkages will work to balance out the Milwaukee Metropolitan area's extreme dependence on freeway systems that are choked with over-capacity and in need of reconstruction. Building user-friendly public transportation systems can actually make our freeways last longer by giving commuters real choices and alternatives.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

John Holz, Vice President, AIA Southeast Wisconsin

Diane Travarrow Evans, President, AIA Southeast Wisconsin

Matt Rinka, Secretary / Treasurer, AIA Southeast Wisconsin

Mark Lane, Past President, AIA Southeast Wisconsin

John J. Holz AIA, NCARB
Senior Project Designer

Plunkett Raysich Architects, LLP

Tel: 414 359-3060 ext 213
Fax: 414 359-3070
Web: <http://www.prarch.com> <<http://www.prarch.com>>

Please note our new Northbrook, IL Office Address and Business
Phone: 3149 Dundee Road, #315, Northbrook, IL 60062 Ph: 847 205-9775

CC: <tmacdo@milwaukee.gov>, <mayor@milwaukee.gov>, <countyexec@milwcnty.com>, "Brook Meier" <brook@brookmeier.com>, "William M. Babcock, Hon. AIA" <Bill@aiaw.org>, "Bob Greenstreet, Associate AIA" <bobg@uwm.edu>, "Diane Trevarrow Evans" <diane@restateltd.com>, <mrinka@kahlerslater.com>, "mark lane" <mlane@porticoarchitects.biz>, "Brook Meier" <brook@brookmeier.com>



RENAISSANT

DEVELOPMENT GROUP, LLC

...leaving a legacy

April 26, 2006

VIA MESSENGER

Alderman Willie L. Hines, Jr.
Common Council President
City of Milwaukee
Room 205 - City Hall
200 East Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202

RE: *Common Council File No. 051610 ... Resolution Expressing the City of Milwaukee's Support for the Milwaukee Connector Public Transit Project*

Dear President Hines:

Please allow me to add my name to the list of supporters who urge the Steering and Rules Committee and the Common Council to pass the above resolution.

I would add to that the name of my company, Renaissant Development Group, LLC, and its Wisconsin subsidiary, Park Lafayette LLC, which on Thursday, April 13, 2006, acquired a 1+ acre parcel at the intersection of North Prospect Avenue and East Lafayette Place in Alderman Michael D'Amato's district.

Prior to that time, more specifically, on December 13, 2005, the Common Council approved a Detailed Planned Development District for the area. Final plans now consist of two 20-story towers that will accommodate a total of 281 dwelling units, 10 of which will be townhouses. In addition, we will have completely enclosed underground parking for 448 motor vehicles.

We anticipate breaking ground in early summer and already have a substantial number of units that have been reserved. The interest in our project continues to grow, particularly from professional staff at Columbia St. Mary's Hospital and faculty at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

One of the great attractions of Park Lafayette is easy access to Columbia St. Mary's and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee as well as most of the near east side and the downtown area.

This convenience will be significantly enhanced by the development of the rubber tire guided street tram which follows a single track guidance system ("Connector") that assures more convenient public transit with minimal impact on traffic and road usage.

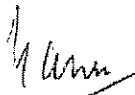
A key factor in selecting our development site was the pedestrian-friendly layout of the neighborhood and ready access to several means of mass transit. The Connector significantly enhances this and brings Milwaukee in line with other major cities throughout the world that have come to recognize the efficiencies of systems such as these.

Development of a system such as this requires substantial public input and debate among various City and County officials. I understand that so far the debate has been vigorous, but I know considerable good will come from those exchanges of ideas.

I recognize the Connector is another major facet in the growth and redevelopment of this City, and I wish you and your fellow Aldermen every success in making the Connector project a reality.

Very truly yours,

RENAISSANT DEVELOPMENT GROUP, LLC



Warren Barr
President and CEO

WB/kg

cc: Ald. Michael S. D'Amato, 3rd Aldermanic District (via messenger)
Mr. Terry MacDonald, Staff Assistant, Committee on Steering & Rules (via messenger)

From: "Stephanie Sherman" <Stephsherman@Tds.Net>
To: "Robert Bauman" <RJBAUMA@milwaukee.gov>, <ahamil@milwaukee.gov>, <jldavis@milwaukee.gov>, <mdamat@milwaukee.gov>, <jbohl@milwaukee.gov>, <mmcgee@milwaukee.gov>, <wwade@milwaukee.gov>, <rdonov@milwaukee.gov>, <rpuent@milwaukee.gov>, <mmurph@milwaukee.gov>, <jdudzi@milwaukee.gov>, <jwitko@milwaukee.gov>, <twitko@milwaukee.gov>, <tzieli@milwaukee.gov>, <whines@milwaukee.gov>
Date: 4/27/2006 9:03:23 AM
Subject: Over 40 Third Ward Businesses Support the Connector

Dear Members of the Common Council,

We are writing to express our enthusiastic support for the Milwaukee Connector. As businesses and residents in the Third Ward, we feel strongly that the project is great for Milwaukee.

We are excited about the potential for economic development along the route. The Connector will connect neighborhoods and businesses while allowing Milwaukeeans to step out of their cars. We think it will definitely ease parking and calm traffic.

Many of us have invested our life savings in our businesses. We are working every day to make it. We have taken big risks and we hope that you agree that the risks are paying off as the Third Ward is becoming a really cool district. We want you to do the same in your support for the Connector. This project takes Milwaukee into the next 21st century!

Many of us have patterned our businesses after concepts in other innovative cities. We hope that you will share in our enthusiasm, innovation and leadership as you support the Milwaukee Connector. We know that you have heard very persuasive arguments for and against. As entrepreneurs, this is an issue we support in our gut. It just makes sense. Please support it for the good of Milwaukee.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Sherman and Carrie Arrouet, Lela, info@lelaboutique.com
Tracie Stier-Johnson, Broadway Paper, tracie@broadwaypaper.com
JHooks, Gallery 218, Artist
Victoria Vonier, Private Gardener, wonier@privategardener.com
Jason Krukowski, MIAD Student Union, Strange Brew, jkrukows@miad.edu
Joel and Shay Sherfinski, Pieces, shay@piecesmilwaukee.com
Bonnie Zeutzius, bonnie@nerolispa.com
Jennifer Putney, J-Bird Boutique, jennifer@jbirdboutique.com
Heather and Brian Elliott, 205 N Water St. #306
Sue Shunta, Fresh Design, sshunta@wi.rr.com
Ann Salentine, AKS Travel, ann@akstravelcruise.com
Lynne Herro, Rouge Salon
Kristin & Jim Vaillencourt, Sprout, kristin@sproutkid.com
Angela Ryun, HGS Architects, aryun@hga.com
Mark Van Ess, Cranston's, mve@cranstonaccents.com
Andy Schaidler info@alwayshappyhour.com
Christian Deaton, Moda 3, christiandeaton@yahoo.com
Deanna Inniss, Freckle Face, Deannafreckel@sbcglabaf.net
Shawna Muren, smuren@yahoo.com
Lara McAvoy, Lara & Zorro Inc. laraandzorro@aol.com

Sharon L. Aderman, HGA Architects, saderman@hga.com
 Heather N. Cook Elliott, HGA Architecture & Heather Cook Elliott Photography
 hcookelliott@hga.com
 Terrie & Joe Zanotti, Riverwalk Bistro and Club Havana, rwbistro@tds.net
 Erin Linegar, HGA Architecture, elinegar@hga.com
 Kate Blake, Shoo, kateblake@shoostore.com
 Awesha Tahir, Ayes haz Boutique, shop@ayeshazboutique.com
 Marci Pelzer, Pelzer Communications, marci_pelzer@yahoo.com
 Sarah Brucker, Blush Beauty, blushmilwaukee@yahoo.com
 Centanni
 Amy Jankowski, OD, Metro Eye, amyjankowski@tds.net
 Kelly Brainerd, HGA Architects, Kbrainerd@hga.com
 Becky Tesch, HGA
 Jessica M. Kovatovic, jmkovato@scj.com
 David Frisch, dhfrisch@scj.com
 John Hainze,
 Judi Rath, resident
 H. Muir, S.C. Johnson
 Dan Lee, Miller Brewing
 Susan Mantel, SMantel@scj.com

CC: <stephanie@lelaboutique.com>, "Carrie Arrouet" <carriearrouet@Tds.Net>, "Tracie Stier-Johnson" <tracie@broadwaypaper.com>, <jhha23@usa.net>, <wonier@privategardener.com>, <btesch@hga.com>, <dhfrisch@scj.com>, <jmkovato@scj.com>, "Rath, Judi A." <JARath@scj.com>, <SMantel@scj.com>, <jkrukows@miad.edu>, <shay@piecesmilwaukee.com>, <bonnie@nerolispa.com>, "J. Bird Boutique" <jbirdboutique@yahoo.com>, "Sue Shunta" <sshunta@wi.rr.com>, <ann@akstravelcruise.com>, "Lynne at Rouge" <lynnefw@yahoo.com>, <kristin@sproutkid.com>, <aryun@hga.com>, <mve@cranstonaccents.com>, "christian deaton" <christiandeaton@yahoo.com>, <info@alwayshappyhour.com>, "deanna inniss" <deannafreckle@sbcglobal.net>, "Shawna Muren" <smuren@yahoo.com>, <laraandzorro@aol.com>, <saderman@hga.com>, <hcookeelliott@hga.com>, <rwbistro@Tds.Net>, <elinegar@hga.com>, "Kate Blake" <kateblake@shoostore.com>, "AYESHAZ Boutique" <shop@ayeshazboutique.com>, "Marci Pelzer" <marci_pelzer@yahoo.com>, "Blush" <blushmilwaukee@yahoo.com>, <amyjankowski@Tds.Net>, "Kelly Brainerd" <KBrainerd@hga.com>, <okeefe@historichirdward.org>, "Beth Nicols" <bethn@milwaukeedowntown.com>, "Ellen Winters" <ellen@westown.org>, "Stacie Callies" <stacie@westown.org>, <kate@easttown.com>, <mayor@milwaukee.gov>, <holloway@milwcnty.com>, <countyexec@milwcnty.com>, <TMACDO@milwaukee.gov>

From: Amy Watson <amywatson@earthlink.net>
To: <tmacdo@milwaukee.gov>, <whines@milwaukee.gov>
Date: 4/26/2006 6:28:29 PM
Subject: Letter in support of Resolution 051610

Common Council President Willie Hines
Steering and Rules Committee Chair
City Hall
200 E. Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Alderman Hines:

I am writing to express my support for the City of Milwaukee's resolution which supports the Milwaukee Connector public transit project with the guided street tram alternative on a two route, 13-mile system.

I live in the 4th aldermanic district, work at UW-Milwaukee, and attend school at Marquette Law School, so I am very familiar with the parking and transit issues that arise in those areas, especially at UWM.

I believe it is crucial for the City to endorse the Milwaukee Connector project, and in particular, to endorse the route that would extend to the extremely congested UWM/East Side area. Thousands of students, faculty and staff live along the proposed two-route, 13-mile system, and if even a small percentage of those individuals shifted to the Milwaukee Connector from single-occupancy vehicles, the decrease in traffic and parking congestion and vehicle emissions would be dramatic.

As a City of Milwaukee resident, frankly, I have to say that it is embarrassing that this project has languished so long. Several other U.S. cities have implemented highly successful fixed transit systems (Minneapolis, Portland, Denver) and here in Milwaukee, all we do is argue about it. That is especially surprising to me considering 80% of the capital costs would be paid with federal funds, and the local match of \$57 million would be dispersed over 20 years.

If Milwaukee wants to be a first class city, we need to improve our transit system so that it efficiently links people to their jobs and educational institutions. While the current county bus system is excellent, the Connector would almost certainly increase transit use in a clean and efficient manner.

Sincerely,

Amy R. Watson
626 E State Street #207
Milwaukee WI 53202

CC: <rjbauma@milwaukee.gov>

From: Jeff Sherman <shrams@wi.rr.com>
To: <mmurph@milwaukee.gov>, "Michael D'AMATO" <mdamat@milwaukee.gov>, <whines@milwaukee.gov>, <jbohl@milwaukee.gov>, <rdonov@milwaukee.gov>, <rjbauma@milwaukee.gov>, <wwade@milwaukee.gov>, <jldavis@milwaukee.gov>, <ahamil@milwaukee.gov>, <mmcgee@milwaukee.gov>, <rpuent@milwaukee.gov>, <tzieli@milwaukee.gov>, <jdudzi@milwaukee.gov>, <jwitko@milwaukee.gov>, <twitko@milwaukee.gov>
Date: 4/26/2006 9:15:50 PM
Subject: Connector now!

Let's move Milwaukee forward with the Milwaukee Connector!

Milwaukee's second largest publication, OnMilwaukee.com, supports it. Shouldn't you? I do and many of my neighbors do too!

<http://onmilwaukee.com/politics/articles/milwconnector.html>

Jeff Sherman
108 W. Wells St. #3C
414-218-1108

CC: Eileen Force <EFORCE@milwaukee.gov>, <TMACDO@milwaukee.gov>

From: "Mary Lou Lamonda" <lamonda@gmail.com>
To: <TMACDO@milwaukee.gov>
Date: 4/26/2006 5:39:39 PM
Subject: Milwaukee Connector

Dear Mayor Barrett,

I was at the recent green team meeting at Gordon Park where you presided. I applaud your efforts to make Milwaukee a greener city. The Milwaukee Connector is very clearly a GREEN initiative, which I hope you will fully support. Milwaukee is years behind many other US cities and decades behind many European and even South American cities, in respect to public transport.

We need the connector, to eliminate pollution, gas consumption and congestion. If the city is going to continue to encourage people to live downtown and continue to build high density neighborhoods, it needs to begin to eliminate parking spaces, and the number of cars that are currently increasing in Milwaukee's neighborhoods and downtown. If there is no easy public transport, people will stay in their cars, and everyone suffers. Please support the Milwaukee Connector.

Thank you

Mary Lou Lamonda
N. Fratney St,
Milwaukee, WI

--

Mary Lou Lamonda
lamonda@gmail.com

From: Salem Eastside <salemeast@sbcglobal.net>
To: <mdamat@milwaukee.gov>
Date: 4/27/2006 5:16:41 AM
Subject: Milwaukee Connector transit project---Common Council Steering Committee

April 27, 2006

Good Morning, Alderman D'Amato,

I want to encourage you to work through the Common Council Steering Committee to promote a thorough public discussion of the matter before the Committee today---the Milwaukee Connector public transit project.

I believe the monumental investment in freeways in our city and county over the past 50 years has favored the automobile over people and life in communities and neighborhoods by its insatiable consumption of private property, in its disruption of social institutions, retail districts, and residential neighborhoods, and by its negative effect on the quality of our environment. Investment in freeways seems only to lead to demand for more.

It's time for us to have a serious look at more efficient, more people-friendly and environment-friendly modes of transit.

Thanks for your support of a real public discussion of the matter.

Sincerely,
James R. Sonnemann
2412 N. Cramer Street
Milwaukee, WI 53211
(414) 803-1306

CC: <TMACDO@milwaukee.gov>

Spirit of Milwaukee

710 N. PLANKINTON AVENUE, SUITE 730
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53203
TELEPHONE: 414.277.8270
FAX: 414.277.8273
www.spiritofmilwaukee.org

April 26, 2006

Common Council President Willie Hines
Steering and Rules Committee Chair
City Hall
200 E. Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Alderman Hines:

On behalf of the Spirit of Milwaukee, I am writing to express our strong support for the Milwaukee Connector and urge the Steering and Rules Committee to move forward with this public transit opportunity for Milwaukee.

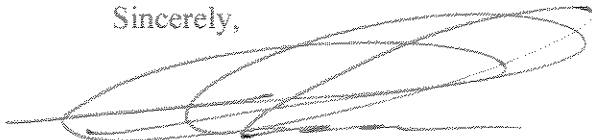
The city of Milwaukee and the entire seven-county region are making tremendous strides in becoming an important location for economic development and tourism. With the activity that is currently taking place, along with what will occur the next ten to twenty years, it is easy to see the necessity for the proper public transportation to meet our growth. Within this public transportation mix we must prepare regionally as well as locally. For that reason Spirit of Milwaukee fully supports proceeding ahead with the Kenosha-Racine-Milwaukee (KRM) Commuter Train as well as the Milwaukee Connector.

As our geographic borders become increasingly irrelevant to businesses, workers, students and visitors we must provide the essential transportation that will connect people to their various needs and interests. The KRM will be a valuable tool to continue the progress that is taking place in the three counties and will be an excellent feeder into the city of Milwaukee, the metropolitan hub of the region. From that point, these individuals need to have easy, efficient and attractive public transportation to land them at their final destination. This can and must be accomplished through the Milwaukee Connector.

This is not a matter of one or the other but rather it is critical that we address both of them as they support each other. To properly address our growing economy it is prudent for this seven-county region and the city of Milwaukee to act in a positive and expedient fashion on both KRM and Connector.

Please move Milwaukee forward and vote to make the Milwaukee Connector a reality.

Sincerely,



Dean Amhaus
President

Founding Members: MIDWEST AIRLINES, BURKE FAMILY FOUNDATION

Board of Directors: TIMOTHY E. HOEKSEMA, CHAIRMAN DEAN AMHAUS, PRESIDENT DANIEL BADER SHEREE DALLAS BRANCH
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The Cudaby Foundation / The Marcus Corporation / The Mark Travel Corporation / The Polacheck Company
The Richard & Ethel Herzfeld Foundation / The Towne Group / Time Warner Cable / Tri City National Bank
U.S. Bank / UW-Milwaukee / Uiblein Electric Company / Usinger Foundation, Inc. / WE Energies
Wells Fargo Bank*

From: Michael D'AMATO
To: Terry MacDonald; Willie Hines
Date: 4/26/2006 1:28:30 PM
Subject: Fwd: FW: Milwaukee Connector Project

Terry,

Could you please add this to the file for tomorrow.

Thanks,

Mike

Ald. Michael S. D'Amato, 3rd District
(414) 286-2221 * Fax: (414) 286-3456
City Hall, Room 205, 200 E. Wells St.
Milwaukee, WI 53202-3570
www.milwaukee.gov/dist3.htm
mdamat@ci.mil.wi.us

>>> "Robert Ruvin" <rob@robertruvin.com> 4/26/2006 9:03 AM >>>

Dear Alderman D'Amato,

I'm writing this e-mail to express my overwhelming support of the proposed Milwaukee Connector Transit Project. As a board member of the Wisconsin Green Building Alliances as well as a Milwaukee Green Team Private Work Group committee member, I believe the Milwaukee Connector would have a profound impact on our city. In order to compete with other cities to keep our best and brightest, we need to take advantage of opportunities like this that will enhance the appeal of living and working in Milwaukee. As a developer, with projects underway in the Park East and East Town, I understand first hand the issues of parking. In many cases the increasing need and growing cost of the parking component can be a deal breaker for many urban development projects. Furthermore, if we really want Milwaukee to become a 'green' city this is a very important part of that message and a required step we must take.

I believe the Milwaukee Connector is worth fighting for. We should support this not only for the impact on future development projects in Milwaukee; we should do our part to protect the environment for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Rob Ruvin

ROBERT RUVIN

RUVIN DEVELOPMENT, INC.

1317 TOWNE SQUARE ROAD

MEQUON WI, 53092

262-241-5561PHONE

262-241-5572 FAX

414-688-3706 MOBILE

rob@robertrubin.com

From: Antonio Lobo <toneitdownproductions@yahoo.com>
To: <TMACDO@milwaukee.gov>
Date: 4/26/2006 11:46:13 AM
Subject: Reasons Why the Milwaukee Connector is "Key" to Milwaukee

First I want to say that this is definitely not getting the publicity that it needs to go through. I was shocked to even see something like this is in the works. Anyways straight to the reasons why we need this to go through.

1. It would cut down the drinking and driving accidents along with DWI tickets. Several people travel to downtown including myself by car due to our horrible and over priced Taxi service and our lagging transportation options.

2. Being a person who's traveled to just about every city in the U.S, I've found it very easy in other cities to get around to do site seeing. Living in Milwaukee I haven't made it to half of the tourist sites Milwaukee has to offer due to the horrible parking conditions and the trouble it is just to get there.

3. We are one of the highest taxed cities in the U.S but we really don't have much to show for it.

4. Our gas prices are only rising.

5. You would be able to generate money by having advertisement on the Milwaukee Connector.

6. Due to our winter weather you could actually save lives having this system

7. It would help increase the inner city job market so they can apply at places outside of there location thus in turn bringing in more money to the lower income locations in Milwaukee.

8. It would also bring in more jobs from Connector Security Guards randomly boarding the train like they do in Miami, to drivers, to construction workers for the project, to managers and organizers to keep it stable and functioning properly.

9. It would help are ever growing global warming problem by cutting emissions into the air we breath.

10. It would give Milwaukee the spark it needs to connect our dividing areas from the suburbs to the inner city to our boarding city's like Oak Creek, South Milwaukee and beyond.

These are just some ideas that immediately went through my head after I read the story, if you would like more input I would gladly research more if it in any way would help this project go through.

How low will we go? Check out Yahoo! Messenger's low PC-to-Phone call rates.

Yahoo! Messenger with Voice. PC-to-Phone calls for ridiculously low rates.

From: "Matias, Michael" <michael.matias@marquette.edu>
To: <TMACDO@milwaukee.gov>
Date: 4/25/2006 10:36:24 PM
Subject: Tram System

Michael Matias
915 W Wisconsin Ave. #452
Milwaukee, WI 53233
April 25, 2006

Terry J. MacDonald, Staff Assistant
City of Milwaukee City Clerk's Office
200 E. Wells St., Room 205
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Terry J. MacDonald,

As a student at Marquette University I would like to encourage you, along with the Milwaukee Common Council to support the Guided Trams project.

Having lived in Milwaukee for two years now I fully understand the need for a modern and efficient transportation system. Milwaukee offers many great opportunities through culture, entertainment, and education and I have taken advantage of several of those opportunities in the immediate downtown area. However, students are deterred from taking advantage of these opportunities because they are uncomfortable on the busses and simply feel disconnected from the rest of the city. Because of this there are many people here that have never been to the Third Ward, which is by far the coolest place in Milwaukee. In addition, Mayfair mall is a popular destination that people are wary of traveling to because it is such a hassle. I feel that an improved system would create awareness of the surrounding areas and make Milwaukee available to us.

Thank you for taking the time to listen to your younger constituents.

Sincerely,

Michael Matias
Marquette University

From: "Szymanski, Henry" <hszymanski@kahlerslater.com>
To: <TMACDO@milwaukee.gov>
Date: 4/25/2006 5:04:20 PM
Subject: Milwaukee Connector

Please forward the enclosed letter to Council President Hines and Alderman Zielinski regarding my support for the Milwaukee Connector Project.

<<form letter.doc>>

Regards,
Henry P. Szymanski
Associate Principal

KAHLER SLATER ARCHITECTS, INC.
111 West Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53203-2501
414-272-2000 phone
414-272-2001 fax
hszymanski@kahlerslater.com

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CC: <hps50@msn.com>

April 25, 2006

Common Council President Willie Hines
Steering and Rules Committee Chair
City Hall
200 E. Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Alderman Hines:

I am writing to express my support for the Milwaukee Connector Project and urge you and the Steering and Rules Committee to move forward with this public transit opportunity for Milwaukee. We cannot afford to lose the \$91 million in Federal Transportation Administration funds for this project.

I wholeheartedly support the replacement of diesel-fueled buses with an electric guided street tram system that will be more efficient. It just makes sense to have a transit alternative that improves mobility for Milwaukee residents, visitors, workers and students. Younger workers want transit options and this will give them that option. We need to retain a young workforce in Milwaukee.

Minneapolis, Denver, Portland--have transit in place and they have seen an economic boom in the areas around the routes. Milwaukee has the same opportunity for growth with transit alternates. We must reduce our dependence on the automobile and giving people choices is the only way to reduce that dependence. I truly believe that the future health of Milwaukee depends on providing this option.

Please move Milwaukee forward and vote to make the Milwaukee Connector the local preferred alternative.

Sincerely,

Henry Szymanski
Resident of Bay View

From: Tim Foreen <tim_foreen@yahoo.com>
To: <TMACDO@milwaukee.gov>
Date: 4/25/2006 6:26:55 PM
Subject: transit

I would like to add my vote to build a transit system connecting the major points in Milwaukee together. It's about time we get a new, clean, and affordable mode of transportation in this city. I am tired of waiting in traffic burning expensive fuel on my daily commute. The buses wait in the same traffic that I do, and only add to the pollution. We also need to be more progressive in our thinking and route planning so we can connect the new housing developments downtown.

Thank you.

Yahoo! Mail goes everywhere you do. Get it on your phone.

From: Brook Meier <brook@brookmeier.com>
To: Michael D'AMATO <MDAMAT@milwaukee.gov>, <whines@milwaukee.gov>, <jwitko@milwaukee.gov>, <mmurph@milwaukee.gov>, <rdonov@milwaukee.gov>, <jldavis@milwaukee.gov>, <rjbauma@milwaukee.gov>
Date: 4/26/2006 9:19:23 AM
Subject: Milwaukee Connector

On April 27th you will vote on a resolution to support The Milwaukee Connector, joining the WCD & MMAC. This project is long overdue for a City of Milwaukee's size and density. With rising gas prices, the regeneration of Milwaukee's neighborhoods, and a growing interest in city living, we can't afford to let another opportunity to implement a mass transit system pass us by.

Every year another American City joins the ranks of progressive urban centers, leaving Milwaukee behind. Portland, St. Louis, Minneapolis, Denver, Salt Lake City, Sacramento... and the list continues to grow. For many of these cities, transit is working in spite of not having a dense city core. Milwaukee is a very walkable city (more akin to San Francisco in its density than Minneapolis), allowing a greater impact for a relatively short line.

Coupling this project with future commuter rail lines, the existing Amtrak, and a much needed upgrade to our bus system; Milwaukee can begin to calm the traffic in the city, energize development in neglected zones, and provide a modern alternative to the automobile (lowering dependence on oil and sustaining our environment).

I look forward to a future Milwaukee; lively neighborhoods connected to each other, a transformed downtown core, and progressive ideas reaching out to the world. This vote is the first step towards these three goals. Don't let this be another missed opportunity.

Sincerely,

Brook Meier

CC: <tmacdo@milwaukee.gov>, <mayor@milwaukee.gov>, <countyexec@milwcnty.com>

From: "Chad Omon" <chado@eadp.com>
To: <TMACDO@milwaukee.gov>
Date: 4/26/2006 9:36:07 AM
Subject: support for the Milwaukee Connector public transit project

My opinion:

I recently moved back to Milwaukee after spending 22 years in Minneapolis. They had just recently opened their first light rail transit line. Like Milwaukee, the twin cities had been "talking about it" for my entire stay in Minnesota, if not longer. It was a sometimes painful process for legislators to get there, but once the trains were on the tracks, the ridership levels were consistently much higher than had been estimated.

The other factor in this is civic pride. Like a signature building, a public transit line can give identity to a city. Minneapolitans are quick to point out their LRT line to visiting friends and family. It's a kind of "we made it" statement, and I think most people are proud of it's existence. So now the line and the beautiful stations are part of the Minneapolis experience. Like their IDS center, or Milwaukee's Calatrava.

I'll leave the other obvious benefits to others to present i.e. traffic, pollution, etc.

Chad Omon
Engberg Anderson Design Partnership, Inc.
611 North Broadway
Suite 517
Milwaukee, WI 53202-5004

Ph. 414.944.9000
Fx. 414.944.9100
mailto:chado@eadp.com
www.eadp.com

From: <dhanlon@uwm.edu>
To: "mdamat@milwaukee.gov" <mdamat@milwaukee.gov>
Date: 4/26/2006 10:33:52 AM
Subject: Milwaukee Connector

Dear Alderman D'Amato,

As one of your constituents, as well as a professional and educator in architecture and urban design, I fully support the proposal for a Milwaukee Connector.

Don Hanlon
Professor
School of Architecture and Urban Planning
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

CC: <TMACDO@milwaukee.gov>

From: "Di Eisold" <dme@execpc.com>
To: <TMACDO@milwaukee.gov>, <mayor@milwaukee.gov>, <whines@milwaukee.gov>, <mmurph@milwaukee.gov>, <jwitko@milwaukee.gov>, <mdamat@milwaukee.gov>, <rdonov@milwaukee.gov>, <jldavis@milwaukee.gov>, <rjbauma@milwaukee.gov>, <tzieli@milwaukee.gov>, <ahamil@milwaukee.gov>, <jbohl@milwaukee.gov>, <mmcgee@milwaukee.gov>, <wwade@milwaukee.gov>, <rpuent@milwaukee.gov>, <jdudzi@milwaukee.gov>, <twitko@milwaukee.gov>
Date: 4/26/2006 2:03:07 PM
Subject: Please support the Milwaukee Connector

Dear Mayor Barrett, Aldermen, and members of the Steering and Rules Committee,

As a lifelong resident of the city of Milwaukee, I urge you to support the resolution in favor of the Milwaukee Connector public transit project. What a great way to support development and encourage residence in the city. It will also be a boost to tourism in the city. The Milwaukee Connector presents a unique way to begin to tie city neighborhoods and destinations together via fast, efficient, and environmentally friendly public transit.

Please take advantage of this opportunity to use federal matching funding to help us move Milwaukee into the "big leagues." If we want to compete with bigger cities in gaining residents, businesses and tourists, we have to play in the big leagues like the big cities do and make Milwaukee a first class city. I believe the Milwaukee Connector public transit project is an important part of that. I hope you will support this resolution at the meeting on April 27 and continue supporting this project.

Thank you,

Diane M. Eisold
3129 S. Illinois Ave
Milwaukee, WI 53207

From: "Don Sargent" <dons@nmidc.org>
To: <TMACDO@milwaukee.gov>
Date: 4/26/2006 12:42:55 PM
Subject: The Milwaukee Connector Plan

Support the Milwaukee Connector Plan. The development of new and improved transportation systems will help economic development and not just at the stops. All though new businesses will locate at these nodes improved transportation systems will benefit all parts of the city. Most people looking for work through the Riverworks Development Corporation do not have a drivers license or car yet the come from all over the city partly because of good transit service. The Milwaukee Connector will improve that service by making it more efficient and less polluting.

Please recognize that some of the consequences of implementing the Milwaukee Connector Plan will be:

More residents in the city near the line.

More retail and service jobs some in businesses that may have low starting pay but a lot of opportunities for advancement in pay and responsibility.

Increased property value

Increased tax revenue without increasing rates

Nearby existing businesses will make more money from increased sales

Businesses will invest in more exterior improvements

Support improved transit for Milwaukee.

Don Sargent

Business Support Specialist

Riverworks Development Corporation

303 E. Vienna

Milwaukee, WI 53212

(414)-906-9650

From: "Miksich, William" <wmiksich@kahlerslater.com>
To: <TMACDO@milwaukee.gov>
Date: 4/26/2006 11:06:16 AM
Subject: Milwaukee Connector

April 26, 2006

<?xml:namespace prefix = o ns = "urn:schemas-microsoft-com:office:office" />

Common Council President Willie Hines

Steering and Rules Committee Chair

City Hall

200 E. Wells Street

Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Alderman Hines:

I am writing to express my support for the Milwaukee Connector and urge you and the Steering and Rules Committee to move forward with this public transit opportunity for Milwaukee. We cannot afford to lose the \$91 million in Federal Transportation Administration funds.

I wholeheartedly support the replacement of diesel-fueled buses with an electric guided street tram system that will be more efficient. With all of the new housing downtown and surrounding neighborhoods, it just makes sense to have a transit alternative that improves mobility for Milwaukee residents, visitors, workers and students. Younger workers want transit options and this will give them that option. We need to retain a young workforce in Milwaukee.

Other cities of similar size--Minneapolis, Denver, Portland--have transit in place and they have seen an economic boom in the areas around the routes.

We must reduce our dependence on the automobile and giving people choices is the only way to reduce that dependence. I truly believe that the future health of Milwaukee depends on providing this option.

Please move Milwaukee forward and vote to make the Milwaukee Connector the local preferred alternative.

Sincerely,

William Miksich

Bill G. Miksich
Graphic Designer

KAHLER SLATER ARCHITECTS
111 West Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53203.2501
414.272.2000 phone
414.290.3797 direct
414.331.9217 mobile
wmiksich@kahlerslater.com

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From: <valerieb@uwm.edu>
To: <TMACDO@milwaukee.gov>
Date: 4/25/2006 3:29:07 PM
Subject: The Milwaukee Connector

To: Terry J. MacDonald

I think that the "Milwaukee Connector" is a wonderful (and long-overdue) idea. I have been to London and Chicago which have public transport systems which support metro areas. I live on the East side of Milwaukee and take classes downtown and work at UWM. All three of these are highly congested (from a parking standpoint). It would be great if a public rail system existed which would reduce parking congestion, ease commuting issues and promoted access to metro areas. I have used the buses (in the past) but do not find them as efficient as rail/tram/subway systems. Due to my classes, work and living on the East side, I use my car but would love a more efficient alternative what with gas prices being what they are. Not to mention the inability to find (or afford) parking.

It would be wonderful if this idea could move forward and become a reality. I would definitely support it.

Valerie Bazaras

From: "Chris Socha" <cjsocha@hotmail.com>
To: <TMACDO@milwaukee.gov>
Date: 4/25/2006 9:54:25 AM
Subject: Support the Milwaukee Connector

To whom it may concern,

I'm writing as a Milwaukee citizen in support of the Milwaukee Connector plan. It's my understanding that the Common Council will hold a meeting on April 27 to review the Connector plan and I would like to voice my support as well. As a resident of the downtown area and an architect I feel the city will only benefit from having well-linked neighborhoods. We must think long-term as a city and this plan starts to do that. While the plan should likely expand it's current scope, this is a start.

The bottom line is every great city has very good mass transportation. Milwaukee is slowly building back it's downtown and surrounding neighborhoods... it's time to link the many assets we have together and build towards becoming a destination city in the Midwest.

Sincerely,

Chris Socha

1512 N. Warren Ave. #107
Milwaukee, WI 53202

April 25, 2006

Common Council President Willie Hines
Steering and Rules Committee Chair
City Hall
200 E. Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Alderman Hines:

I am writing to express my support for the City of Milwaukee's resolution expressing the support for the Milwaukee Connector public transit project and urge you and the Steering and Rules Committee to move forward with this public transit opportunity for Milwaukee by supporting a Locally Preferred Alternative for the Milwaukee Connector.

As the former Chair of the Eastside Transportation Management Association, current President of the Cambridge Woods Neighborhood Association, and member of the University Neighborhood Association, we have followed and have formerly endorsed the advancement of this transit project. An enhanced transit facility consisting of a guided street tram on a route that would include the densely populated and congested UWM and Eastside area would greatly benefit the area and the City.

This six year study has languished for too long without advancing to the next step of the preliminary engineering phase, presumably waiting for the right time. The \$91 million in available Federal Transportation Administration funds was part of agreement to implement an improved transit system. This settlement was a result of ruling that federal funding favored road/automobile projects over transit. The other road projects funded as part of the agreement have been completed.

Milwaukee can no longer wait for an improved transit system that would create and link people to jobs, increase the use of transit in a clean efficient manner, and lengthen the life over current buses. The funding mechanism for the \$300 million dollar project that has a local share of \$57 million dollars spread out over 20 years is fiscally responsible. An enhanced transit system(s) is a missing puzzle piece to an improving city picture; it is time to move Milwaukee forward.

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter McMullen, CWNA President

cc: Alderman Michael D'Amato
Supervisor Gerry Broderick
UNA Members
CWNA Board

From: "Roger Lautz" <RLautz@hga.com>
To: <TMACDO@milwaukee.gov>
Date: 4/10/2006 2:09:00 PM
Subject: Third Ward Connector Inclusion

To the members of the Milwaukee Common Council:

I wish to express my support for a public transportation Connector extending into the Third Ward. I work in the area, and am aware of the expansive development, and capacity for additional growth. A significant roadblock to development is a lack of adequate fast, efficient and cost effective transportation. Furthermore, a good public transportation system will aid to relieve congestion and pollution caused by individual transportation. I feel it is essential that the Third Ward be connected to Miller Park, Uptown, and Downtown. The proposed Connector will provide this necessary connection to the rest of Milwaukee.

Sincerely,

Roger W. Lautz, P.E.

Associate Vice President

Mechanical Department Leader

HGA Architecture | Engineering | Planning

333 East Erie Street Milwaukee, WI 53202

Direct 414.278.3392 Mobile 414.940.9885

rlautz@hga.com

From: "Laura Beulke" <laurab@eadp.com>
To: <tmacdo@milwaukee.gov>, <mayor@milwaukee.gov>
Date: 4/18/2006 8:48:37 AM
Subject: "Milwaukee Connector Street Tram"

I would like to urge the Milwaukee Common Council and Mayor Barrett to vote "yes" to moving the Milwaukee Connector project forward to the preliminary engineering phase and to support the guided street tram alternative on a two-route, 13-mile system.

Thank you,

Sincerely,

Laura Beulke
1570 N. Prospect Ave #302
Milwaukee, WI 53202

From: "Michael Kramer" <michaeljkramer@hotmail.com>
To: <mayor@milwaukee.gov>, <tzieli@milwaukee.gov>, <tmacdo@milwaukee.gov>
Date: 4/17/2006 4:55:39 PM
Subject: Milwaukee Connector Street Tram

I would like to urge the Milwaukee Common Council and Mayor Barrett to vote "yes" to moving the Milwaukee Connector project forward to the preliminary engineering phase and to support the guided street tram alternative on a two-route, 13-mile system.

The guided street tram technology will bring Milwaukee to the forefront of public transportation. Fixed transit is a method of public transportation that has shown time and time again to attract riders who otherwise would not ride public transportation. Cities that have recently implemented similar fixed transit system have shown ridership numbers that have outpaced original estimates, and the same can be done here. Minneapolis, Salt Lake City, Portland and Denver are all examples of this.

Most importantly, the economic impacts of fixed transit will make this project essentially pay for itself in the years to come.

I fully support the initially proposed two-route, 13-mile system using the guided street tram technology and anticipate that future extensions of the system will be highly sought after once the initial system is in place.

Please do not allow Milwaukee to be passed over for this great opportunity that will make our city a more attractive place to live, work and play.

Sincerely,
Michael Kramer
2761 S. Superior St.
Milwaukee, WI 53207
414-731-0114
michaeljkramer@hotmail.com
(additionally, I work in downtown Milwaukee)

CC: <michaeljkramer@hotmail.com>

From: Angela McCormick Blair <ammblair@yahoo.com>
To: <tmacdo@milwaukee.gov>, <mayor@milwaukee.gov>
Date: 4/17/2006 6:27:09 PM
Subject: Milwaukee connector project

Hello,

I recently moved from Milwaukee to Chicago, but ultimately plan on returning to Milwaukee to raise my children. One reason that such a move would be difficult is the lack of quality public transportation, particularly downtown. Accordingly, I urge the Milwaukee Common Council and Mayor Barrett to vote "yes" to moving the Milwaukee Connector project forward to the preliminary engineering phase and to support the guided street tram alternative on a two-route, 13-mile system. It is this sort of project that will make Milwaukee a more modern city, and will help convince those of us living in other, larger areas to return home one day.

Sincerely,

Angela Blair
312 N. May Street, Unit 2H
Chicago, IL 60607
ammblair@yahoo.com
312-560-3382

From: "Albert Liu" <al_liu@hotmail.com>
To: <mayor@milwaukee.gov>, <tmacdo@milwaukee.gov>, <mdamat@milwaukee.gov>
Date: 4/17/2006 6:17:35 PM
Subject: Milwaukee Connector Street Tram

Dear Sirs,

I would like to urge the Milwaukee Common Council and Mayor Barrett to vote "yes" to moving the Milwaukee Connector project forward to the preliminary engineering phase and to support the guided street tram alternative on a two-route, 13-mile system.

The guided street tram technology will bring Milwaukee to the forefront of public transportation. Fixed transit is a method of public transportation that has shown time and time again to attract riders who otherwise would not ride public transportation. Cities that have recently implemented similar fixed transit system have shown ridership numbers that have outpaced original estimates, and the same can be done here. Minneapolis, Salt Lake City, Portland and Denver are all examples of this.

Most importantly, the economic impacts of fixed transit will make this project essentially pay for itself in the years to come.

I fully support the initially proposed two-route, 13-mile system using the guided street tram technology and anticipate that future extensions of the system will be highly sought after once the initial system is in place.

Please do not allow Milwaukee to be passed over for this great opportunity that will make our city a more attractive place to live, work and play.

Sincerely,
Albert Liu
2535 N. Downer Avenue #10
Milwaukee, WI 53211-4240
414.218.4650
al_liu@hotmail.com



301 East Erie Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202-6005
414-347-3600
414-347-3607 fax
www.mandelgroup.com

April 12, 2006

Honorable Willie L. Hines
President – Milwaukee Common Council
City Hall – Room 205
200 East Wells Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202-3570

RE: Milwaukee Connector Project

Dear Alderman Hines:

I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed Milwaukee Connector transit project. As you know, our company specializes in the development of urban infill residential communities in Milwaukee. While the vibrant urban communities we develop are carefully designed to create pedestrian friendly spaces, we still find that our residents remain dependent on the automobile to shop, work and play. I believe that a modern urban mass transit system, as envisioned with the development of the Milwaukee Connector, will create an opportunity to begin to reduce our reliance on the automobile. Ultimately that could lead to a reduction in the amount of expensive structured parking we are required to build into our developments. This will, in turn, reduce the overall cost of the housing, and correspondingly increase the affordability of our homes.

Emerging Trends in Real Estate, published each year by the Urban Land Institute and Price Waterhouse Coopers, is a widely respected analysis of trends in our industry. Their 2006 report states that transit-oriented development located near modern transit facilities “almost can’t miss.” While that may be a bit of an overstatement, we will certainly seek out sites and development opportunities along the route of the Milwaukee Connector when that project moves forward.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to express my support for the Milwaukee Connector, and I would be happy to discuss it further with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. R. Mandel".

Barry R. Mandel
President

cc: Milwaukee Common Council