

Celesia, Jessica

From: Ivan Valtchev <bgarkitekt@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 12:06 AM
To: Stamper II, Russell; Zielinski, Tony; Witkowski, Terry; Perez, Jose; Dudzik, Joseph; Murphy, Michael (Alderman); Puente, Robert; Wade, Willie; Coggs, Milele; Bauman, Robert; Kovac, Nik; Davis Sr., Joe; Hamilton, Ashanti; Mayor Tom Barrett
Subject: Milwaukee Streetcar Letter of Interest - In Support

A message from Ivan Valtchev about the Milwaukee Streetcar project.

Do you support the Milwaukee Streetcar? Yes

Message: I truly hope this makes a difference. In bed, exhausted, but I'll take a few minutes to share why I support the Milwaukee streetcar.

I went to UW Milwaukee from 98-03. Fell in love with the city. Saw it start to change dramatically in those years. Milwaukee really made strides to become a relevant city. The Calatrava addition to the museum made the country take notice that something is happening in this city. To me it showed that the city was truly invested in the future and keeping its young population around. For me it screamed "hey people, there is culture, stuff to do here, you don't have to move to say Chicago to find it".

Fast forward to now. I live in Waterloo, ia. When the recession hit, I was left with few choices in Madison if I wanted to maintain a career in architecture, so I moved here in 2011. Just got married and now looking to move back to wisconsin. Back to Madison? Or Milwaukee?

I don't want to say that I would solely move back to Milwaukee if the streetcar project is approved, but it would definitely have a significant affect on my decision. Approving the project would show me that the progressive spirit of milwaukee is still in tact. That the city is committed in continuing to invest in itself to make it a better, more desirable place to live. A place where I want to live. I also agree with all that has been written about how it would help spark and sustain businesses as well as invite large outside corporations to invest in milwaukee. I was born and raised in Eastern Europe, in the beautiful country of Bulgaria, in the capital of Sofia. There are five different forms of transportation available there: tram, bus, electric bus, metro, and car of course. Why such a variety of transportation? Someone thought them important.

I know the streetcar will cost a good amount of money, but it will be money well spent. We must not think about the now but think about the future. This project will pay back dividends in the future I guaranty it! Alternative methods of transportation are needed in Milwaukee! Do not let the special interest groups sway your decision. Do what's right for the Beautiful city of Milwaukee.

Sincerely,
Ivan Valtchev

Ps. If this project moves forward, my wife and I will move back to Milwaukee. Just made up my mind.

Ivan Valtchev
217 W. 4th Street, #203
waterloo, Iowa 50701

Form filled out on UrbanMilwaukee.com