

FN 090325

**Misky, David**

**From:** Pamela Fendt [pfendt@communitybenefits.org]  
**Sent:** Friday, July 10, 2009 12:34 PM  
**To:** Katie West; Wade, Willie; Misky, David  
**Subject:** RE: AO Smith

Dear members of RACM,

The GJLN Coalition is writing in support of the proposed City acquisition and redevelopment of the former AO Smith/Tower Automotive site.

GJLN and Midwest Environmental Advocates have been working with interested residents of surrounding neighborhoods for the past 2 years to engage them in planning for the redevelopment of the site and to create momentum for this type of focused attention.

This is an important action on the part of the City and RACM, as it is going to take significant financial resources to put the site to productive reuse. GJLN is supportive of the TIF proposal especially since the wage, hiring, and contracting standards of the MORE ordinance will apply to this public project.

I will be on vacation next week and unable to attend the hearing, but I would like to applaud this commitment to revitalizing an important parcel in Milwaukee's central city. We were very pleased with the Mayor's comments about seeking public input. The residents who have attended our meetings in the last year echo the priorities outlined in our door-to-door neighborhood canvas of 500 homes in 2005. People want to see this site offer good jobs for local residents.

We look forward to working with you as this project unfolds.

Pamela Fendt, director  
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*And the sons of Pullman porters and the sons of engineers ride their father's magic carpets made of steel.*  
--City of New Orleans, by Steve Goodman

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