Amanda (Williams) Cervantes Legislative Assistant Alderman Nik Kovac, 3rd District 200 E. Wells St. Room 205 Milwaukee, WI 53202 414.286.3447 / <u>aide3@milwaukee.gov</u>

From: Director Rosen <director@matcfastfund.org>
Sent: Tuesday, July 13, 2021 9:31 AM
To: Kovac, Nik <nkovac@milwaukee.gov>
Subject: Eighteen87 on Water

Good Morning Nik,

I am writing as a constituent, but also as the Director of the local 212 MATC FAST Fund, a five year old non-profit that provides financial assistance to MATC students experiencing economic emergencies.

We strongly support the Eighteen87 on Water project. The shortage of affordable housing in Milwaukee is a market failure that has a significantly negative impact in MATC's students to pursue their educational goals. Every year one third of the students we assist are either homeless or threatened with eviction. Rents in even the least desirable neighborhoods are close to 50% of many students' incomes. The city's own research is that there is a shortage of 33,500 rental units for renters who can pay no more than \$500 a month.

The shortage of affordable working class housing housing has created a crisis for Milwaukee's working class families, disproportionately Black and Brown families.

As a constituent and in my capacity at the FAST Fund I want to thank you for supporting this project and hope you take the lead in helping to address the shortage of working class housing. If Milwaukee us to be a city that works for all of its citizens it must address the critical shortage of housing for the 40% of us residents who make poverty level wages.

Thank you,

Michael Rosen, PhD Director, Local 212 MATC FAST Fund 3467 N Murray Ave 4144678908 Michael Rosen, PhD Director, Local 212/MATC Believe in Students FAST Fund 414 467 8908

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