



Tom Barrett
Mayor, City of Milwaukee

April 26, 2017

To the Honorable, the Common Council
of the City of Milwaukee

Honorable Members of the Common Council:

Common Council File Number 170053 renews the City's relationship with Employ Milwaukee under the Federal Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act of 2014.

In 2007, the appointing authority for the workforce development board, known then as the Private Industry Council (PIC), was moved from Milwaukee County to the City of Milwaukee. That organization became MAWIB in 2007 and was rebranded Employ Milwaukee in 2015. As we renew this agreement, I want to highlight for you just some of the accomplishments of this 10-year partnership.

First, there are more Milwaukee residents accessing employment services than ever before. The PIC served just under 4,500 individuals in 2005-06. Last year, Employ Milwaukee served over 13,000 job-seekers.

Second, Employ Milwaukee has been able to secure far more funding for workforce development. Total funding in MAWIB's first year was \$9.3 million. Employ Milwaukee's 2015 funding was \$20.5 million, more than double. The agency is also better managed, with an active board, and administrative expenses that were just 12% of revenue in 2015.

The greatest benefit of the city's relationship with Employ Milwaukee is having a partner that understands how to get Milwaukee residents working. In 2016, the City and Employ Milwaukee connected nearly 2,100 residents with employment opportunities ranging from Earn & Learn internships to building the huge glass curtain wall for the new Northwestern Mutual Tower.

We all know how critical employment is to our city's future. I am pleased to continue this great partnership between the City of Milwaukee and Employ Milwaukee.

Thank you for your support of this agreement.

Sincerely,

Tom Barrett
Mayor