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ROBERT J. BAUMAN

ALDERMAN, 4TH DISTRICT

April 8, 2011

Mr. Peter Rogoff
Administrator
Federal Transit Administration
U. S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Administrator Rogoff:

I am writing with respect to several questions regarding the status of certain federal transportation funds that have been appropriated to the city of Milwaukee for the construction of a downtown streetcar line.

The City of Milwaukee and Milwaukee County have had an ongoing discussions regarding the use of \$91.5M in Interstate Cost Estimate funds that have remained unspent for close to two decades. This dispute was resolved by the Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009 in the Statement of Managers and a subsequent colloquy on the floor of the United States Senate which establish that 60% of the funds were appropriated to the City of Milwaukee for a downtown fixed rail circulator and 40% of the funds were appropriated to Milwaukee County for energy efficient buses.

In light of the aforementioned Congressional action we have several questions:

1. Under what circumstances, if any, can the funds appropriated to the city of Milwaukee be redirected to another transportation project in the city of Milwaukee or Milwaukee County?
2. Under what circumstances, if any, can the funds appropriated to the city of Milwaukee be redirected to offset operating costs of the Milwaukee County Transit System?
3. Is there a date certain by which the funds appropriated to the city of Milwaukee must be obligated? If so, what is that date?
4. If the funds appropriated to the city of Milwaukee are not obligated by that date certain, what is the disposition of those funds?

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5. If there is no date certain by which the funds appropriated to the city of Milwaukee must be obligated, under what circumstances, if any, could these funds be rescinded?

Thank you for your attention to these matters.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert J. Bauman', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Robert J. Bauman
Alderman, 4th District