



633 W. Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 603, Milwaukee, WI 53203

O: (414) 462-9450

F: (414) 462-9452

www.aaccwisconsin.org

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July 15, 2016

Mr. Jim Bohl
District 5 Alderman
City of Milwaukee Common Council
City Hall, 200 E. Wells St., Room 205
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Alderman Bohl,

On behalf of the African American Chamber of Commerce of Wisconsin (AACCCW), I am writing this letter in support of the reappointment of Rocky Marcoux, Commissioner for the Department of City Development.

Since taking the leadership of AACCCW in April 2012, I have observed Rocky in public meetings, events, and one-on-one conversations. His commitment to making this a great city for present citizens and attractive to others who may want to relocate here is outstanding. Rocky's role in the development of downtown and efforts to develop and improve areas beyond the business district is to be commended. While there is truly so much more to be done especially in the African American community and other communities of color or simply beyond Milwaukee's downtown hub, ending his appointment during this high level of development and expansion opportunities could be hurtful to the momentum.

After conversations with numerous community leaders, I am convinced that significant trust and respect remains for Rocky along with a willingness to collaborate with him to intensify efforts in our communities of color. As a chamber leader who represents a community that is over 40% of the city, 25% of the county and 6% of the state, I have committed to facilitate planning discussions with him and with our chamber members to catapult opportunities and ideas to further business and economic development impacting diverse citizens and neighborhoods. Meetings will be actionable with accountability on both parts to make this a great city on the lake for EVERYONE!

While so much negative seems to clog the media with deficits, let's band together on the assets we do have and continue the positive momentum occurring in business and economic development. Let's renew our development energy beyond downtown while still celebrating the strides we have made in our city center.

Thank you for your consideration of reappointing Rocky Marcoux to continue being part of our metropolitan renaissance.

Sincerely,

Dr. Eve M. Hall
President/CEO