

Dear Mayor Johnson and Common Council Members,

The Wisconsin Working Families Party is a multiracial political party that fights for workers and for pro-working class policies. We support unions because they improve the lives of working class people. Many of our supporters are employed in low-wage service sector work who would benefit from being represented by a union.

We urge you to delay NCG Hospitality's request for a zoning change to develop the Moxy hotel until it stops its union busting efforts at the Trade Hotel and settles its dispute with the Milwaukee Area Service and Hospitality Workers Union (MASH).

During this past year workers employed at the Trade Hotel by NCG Hospitality sought to form a union with MASH. NCG Hospitality should have followed the lead of other civic-minded employers in the Deer District and the advice of the Common Council to remain neutral, recognizing MASH based on a card count. Instead NCG chose to weaponize the National Labor Relations Board process by employing bureaucratic delays, procedural hassles, lies and deception in a clear attempt to undermine their employees' desire for union representation. NCG Hospitality turned what should have been a free and fair election into a mockery of democracy. In the process, it violated federal laws designed to safeguard workers' rights. As a result, NCG Hospitality is under an on-going federal investigation for these violations.

Now NCG Hospitality is asking the city to reward them for their anti-worker behavior by approving a zoning change needed for a new hotel, the Moxy.

Milwaukee's elected leaders are charged with facilitating the health and welfare of our community. The Wisconsin Working Families Party believes that includes protecting workers rights and opposing union-busting and lawbreaking. We urge you to postpone consideration of NCG's zoning request until its National Labor Relations Board case

is resolved or the company settles with MASH. No company subject to an ongoing, serious federal investigation should be helped by the city.

It is critical that our elected local leaders support workers whenever they organize unions. Non-union work in the service industry, particularly in hospitality, pays poverty wages without any benefits, with insecure employment, and oftentimes unhealthy and unsafe workplaces. Workers represented by unions earn better wages than their non-union counterparts, enjoy more job security, better benefits, and certainty in scheduling, providing for more stable employment.

We implore you to delay consideration of any new development by NCG Hospitality until it settles its labor dispute with MASH.

Sincerely,

Corinne Rosen

WI State Director, Working Families Party