February 9, 2005

To the Honorable Common Council Zoning, Neighborhoods and Development Committee City of Milwaukee

Dear Committee Members:

Attached are File No. 041297, being a substitute ordinance relating to the change in zoning from Multi-Family Residential (RM6) to Two-Family Residential (RT3 and RT2), on land located generally between North 28th Street and North 35th Street and North and South of West Wells Street, in the 4th Aldermanic District.

This ordinance changes the zoning for existing and vacant residential properties to be consistent with the Near West Side Plan. The Near West Side Area Plan includes an overall residential policy supporting a decrease in the number of studios and one-bedroom apartments in areas with high concentrations. It also promotes single and two-family housing and supports owner occupied residential construction on vacant lots. The amendment would establish residential zoning that permits one and two-bedroom family dwellings in this area of the near west side. The proposed zoning change does not affect current use. For example, an existing apartment building would be grandfathered as a permitted use but future construction and occupancy must comply. This zoning change was initiated by the Department of City Development at the request of Alderman Bauman who is promoting owner-occupancy of single family and duplex housing units.

On Monday, February 7, 2005, the City Plan Commission heard this item. At that time, a Commissioner inquired about housing need for Marquette University. The Alderman stated that Marquette has moved their housing closer to campus and this zoning change would not affect them. Since the substitute ordinance is consistent with the Near West Side Area Plan development, the City Plan Commission recommended that the substitute ordinance be approved.

Sincerely,

Rocky Marcoux
Executive Secretary
City Plan Commission of Milwaukee

cc: Ald. Bauman File