

# CITY OF MILWAUKEE

Form CA-43a

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July 2, 2003

Public Improvements Committee of the Common Council  
200 East Wells, Room 205  
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Attn: Robert Harvey, Staff Assistant

RE: USE OF LETTERS IN LIEU OF PETITION FOR STREET NAME CHANGE

Dear Committee Members:

By a referral notice dated June 19, 2003, you requested an opinion as to whether letters of property owners adjoining a street would satisfy the legal requirements of §113-3(4a-7) of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances, which governs the renaming of streets within the City.

It is our opinion that the use of letters submitted by property owners would not be sufficient for the purpose of meeting the requirements regarding the collection of signatures.

In an opinion letter dated January 10, 2003, directed to the attention of Alderman Marvin E. Pratt, our office previously indicated that the intent of the ordinance's requirement in this regard is clear. The person or persons requesting the renaming are responsible for actually obtaining the signatures of property owners themselves, and these individuals can, if it becomes necessary at a later date, attest to the representations made by those individuals about their identities as well as their physical appearance and understanding

Public Improvements Committee

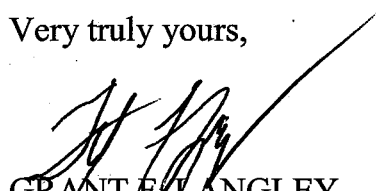
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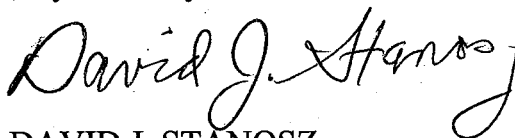
of the issue. Letters alone do not permit this degree of confidence in the integrity of the process.

If you have any further questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact our office.

Very truly yours,



GRANT F. LANGLEY  
City Attorney



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DJS/ms

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