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FOR INFORMATION CALL

May 1, 2006

Ald. Robert J. Bauman
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Citizens Voice Overwhelming Opposition To \$300 Million Guided Bus Plan

Alderman Robert Bauman Cites Public Hearing Input as Proof That Strong Public Opposition Exists to the \$300 Million "Boondoggle"

If the only public testimony to date on a resolution endorsing the \$300 million Connector guided bus plan is any indication, the citizens of Milwaukee are strongly opposed to the project.

Ald. Robert J. Bauman said 108 persons registered to speak on the proposed guided bus plan at the Common Council's Steering and Rules Committee public hearing on April 27, 2006. Of those who registered, 79 opposed the resolution while only 29 spoke in support of it, he said.

Among those who registered in favor of the resolution, 18 persons were representatives of or affiliated with organizations, corporations or the Connector Study team, Ald. Bauman said, noting that among those who registered against the resolution, only two persons were representatives of or affiliated with organizations or corporations.

Ald. Bauman, who represents Milwaukee's downtown and serves as chair of the Public Works Committee, said of the 88 "unaffiliated" citizens at the public hearing, 77 were against the resolution while only 11 registered in favor.

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“The results of this public hearing indicate to me that there is wide spread opposition to this \$300 million guided bus plan among Milwaukee residents in general and transit users in particular,” said the alderman. “While many citizens agree that Milwaukee needs expanded and improved public transit, most citizens are opposed to the \$300 million guided bus plan once they learn the details.”

Alderman Bauman continued: “Based on feedback I have received from residents of the 4th Aldermanic District, where the largest share of the 13-mile guided bus route will operate, residents oppose this \$300 million guided bus plan by a ratio of at least 7 to 1.”

The full Common Council will take up the Steering and Rules Committee’s recommendation in support of the Connector guided bus plan at its regular meeting on May 9 at City Hall.