



**Department of City Development**

City Plan Commission  
Neighborhood Improvement  
Development Corporation  
Redevelopment Authority

**Rocky Marcoux**  
Commissioner

**Martha L. Brown**  
Deputy Commissioner

May 9, 2011

Alderman Robert Donovan  
Chair, Public Safety Committee  
Milwaukee Common Council  
200 E. Wells Street  
Room 205  
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Alderman Donovan:

The City of Milwaukee Department of City Development supports passage of file no. 101416, proposed substitute A. The file would amend the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances (MCO 78-6.5) to allow the keeping of chickens in the City of Milwaukee.

Legislation to allow backyard chickens supports Milwaukee's efforts to foster urban agriculture and access to high-quality food across Milwaukee. The ordinance is modeled on successful ordinances enacted in other Wisconsin municipalities and should allow Milwaukeeans to raise chickens without creating any nuisances or fostering significant enforcement burdens.

Sincerely,

Martha L. Brown  
Deputy Commissioner

C: Members of the Public Safety Committee  
Ald. Nik Kovac