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January 20, 2015

Mayor Barrett
Members of the Common Council
c/o Jim Owczarski, City Clerk
City Hall
200 E. Wells St.
Milwaukee WI 53202

Mayor Barrett and the Common Council,

I am a 28-year-old licensed Architect and a life-long resident of Milwaukee. I love this city, its people, its spirit, and its strong heritage. I volunteer giving Historic walking tours of neighborhoods through Historic Milwaukee, Inc. I know this city inside and out. My family lives here. I own a home here. This is my city just like it is your city.

I am contacting you to pledge my support for the Milwaukee Streetcar. I am a young professional and have seen dozens of my college peers leave our city for greener pastures in Colorado, Oregon, California, and Washington (all to cities with superior transit systems, I might add). I believe we need to do all we can to attract and retain young talent. The streetcar itself may not keep talented minds from leaving. But I'm certain that a progressive attitude toward our future will make the city of Milwaukee an attractive place to make a home.

I sincerely worry for all those who wish to drag our city into mediocrity. The world we give our children should be one where big ideas are the basis of our culture. The streetcar isn't a magic bullet to make this city thrive, but if we fail to invest in smart, proven infrastructure, we are giving up on a prosperous future.

I urge you to think about the future, not just of the handful of stubborn constituents, but of the citizens who actually care about the greater health of the city of Milwaukee.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Keith R. Stachowiak, Jr." in a cursive script.

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