

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS
2009-10 Legislative Session

11/12/08

CATEGORY	PROPOSAL	DEPARTMENT
Administration and Finance	* Amend §70.03 to codify that real property includes contract rights thereby allowing assessments based on rental income.	Assessor
	* Support clarification of rent-use language in §70.11 in exchange for licensing of and fee revenue from tax-exempt residential property owned by benevolent associations.	Assessor
	* Amend the definition of real property in §70.03 to include the value of the permits necessary for the location of a billboard.	Assessor
	Update statutes related to the Public Debt Amortization Fund (PDAF).	DOA – Budget/ Comptroller
	* Amend §66.1105(5)(bm) to state that the value of real property owned and used by a city and which is actively being marketed for redevelopment purposes, shall not be included in the tax incremental base established under par. (b)	DCD
	* Amend §66.1105(6)(c) to allow for tax increments to be deposited into a separate fund for a tax incremental district, <u>or</u> into a consolidated fund for all tax increments received by a city of the first class.”	DCD
	Amend §63.39(1), (2), and (3) to allow the City of Milwaukee, Board of City Service Commissioners to establish by rule the number of test scores to be used in certifying candidates from eligible lists.	DER
	Create §63.275 to allow employees of the Fire and Police Departments to participate in transfer and promotional examinations for positions in the City Service.	DER
	Amend §63.18 through 63.53 regarding City Civil Service to delete or change outmoded and illegal references in the language of the Statute.	DER
	* Allow all local and municipal and public school employees to participate in the State of Wisconsin ETF plan for local governments with the benefits offered without requiring health benefits be a subject of bargaining.	DER
	* Amend §70.109 to codify that the burden of proof always resides with the organization seeking property tax exemption by adding that the “burden of proof is on the person who claims or <i>benefits</i> from the exemption”.	Assessor

Administration and Finance	* Seek an exception to DOT's policy on freeway signage to allow signs to be posted for exits to the Historic Central Library	Library
	* Change title of Building Inspector to Neighborhood Services Inspector.	DOA
	Seek legislation that would allow for assignment of income to pay municipal Court judgments. (Debt Task Force)	DOA – IRD/ Municipal Court
	Delete the statutory provision exempting cemetery trust funds from open records regulations.	Common Council
	Seek legislation that would grant cities of the first class the option of enacting a system where the chiefs of the fire and police departments are appointed by the Mayor.	Common Council
	* Amend §62.50(17) to include an exception to the Fire and Police Commission's capability to suspend without pay for a period not exceeding 60 days in instances where the accused has been found by the Board to be in violation of a residency requirement so that the violator can be automatically discharged.	City Attorney
	Amend §70.11(39) to clarify that fax machines, copiers and multi-function devices are subject to property taxes.	City Attorney / Assessor
	* Update and amend the current public records law to address electronic records.	City Attorney
	* Update or amend the current public records law to allow an exception for records, or portions of records, relating to the "deliberative process."	City Attorney
	* Propose a 3-4 year limitation for civil rights actions against a public official in official capacity and individual capacity for acts within scope of employment.	City Attorney
	* Amend §66.0410 to clarify that it was not intended to affect a municipality's ability to require ticket sellers to obtain permits or otherwise limit municipality's authority to regulate its streets. (Resale of tickets to entertainment or sporting events.)	City Attorney
	* Amend §703.23(1) to correct an error. In the last sentence of sub(1) the second use of the word "registered" should be "resident."	City Attorney
	* Amend §341.35 to allow municipalities to charge the motor vehicle registration fee to vehicles greater than 8000 pounds.	Common Council
Community Health	* Maintain local public health's ability to bill Medicaid for Prenatal Care coordination.	Health
	Reintroduce 2007 AB 717 which requires that cigarettes sold in Wisconsin meet a fire safety performance standard.	Health
	* Support legislation and policies that assist the MHD in meeting its goal to reduce teen births to a rate of 30/1000 by the year 2015.	Health

Community Health	* Support legislation and policies that assist the MHD in meeting its goal to reduce disparities in the rate of infant mortality between Blacks and Whites.	Health
	* Support legislation and policies that support mental health parity.	Health
	* Support legislation and policies that increase health care coverage of Milwaukee residents.	Health
	* Support the Pennies for Prevention PH Funding Initiative. This new initiative is designed to raise awareness and support for the Public Health Council Finance Report.	Health
	* Create and support the Public Health Workforce Steering Committee described in the Wisconsin Public Health Workforce Call to Action Grant.	Health
	* Create a State Center for Health Equity.	Health
	* Support a smoking ban in indoor public places only if applied statewide.	Health/Common Council
Crime and Public Safety	Permit the impoundment of vehicles operated in violation of cruising related and other traffic ordinances. Require payment of forfeitures as a condition of release of the impounded vehicle.	Common Council
	Authorize use of photographic system to detect red light running.	Common Council/ Budget/Police
	*Support the Center for Driver's License Recovery efforts to reintroduce 2007 SJR 82/AJR 98 and SB 410/AB 777 which would repeal the mandatory suspension following a criminal drug conviction, codified at §961.50.	Municipal Court
	*Support the Center for Driver's License Recovery efforts to reintroduce 2007 AB 818 and SB 532 which contain 4 critical policy measures regarding driving privileges, suspension, revocations, etc.	Municipal Court
	Authorize cities to tow and/or boot legally or illegally parked vehicles with 3 or more unpaid parking citations. (CC #080753) (Debt Task Force)	DPW
	Prohibit possession and use of fireworks statewide, strengthen state law for permitting a fireworks granted by state or any local jurisdiction, establish penalty for fireworks violation and establish enforcement jurisdiction where violation occurs.	Common Council
	Increase the fine for a hit and run to \$505, same as first offense for DWI.	Common Council
	Amend the Controlled Substances Act to better define drug paraphernalia.	Common Council/ City Attorney

Crime and Public Safety	Authorize Cities of the first class to establish a time frame (180 days) to pay and/or adjudicate a parking citation. Failure to do so will result in a plea of no contest, finding of guilt and a judgment entered. (Debt Task Force)	DPW / City Attorney
	Propose amending the phrase “traffic officer” to “parking enforcer” as a person who enforces restrictions against unauthorized parking.	City Attorney
	Propose that all exceptions to noise restrictions outlined in §346.94(16) be deleted except for emergency vehicles.	City Attorney
	* Adopt a statute similar to §345.06 that would make vehicle owners liable for parking violations by those who operate their vehicle with their permission.	City Attorney
	* Create an absolute statute of limitations for parking citations of 28 days under §345.28.	City Attorney
	* Repeal city liability for failure to control mob action that causes damage under §892.81.	City Attorney
	Require background checks on sale or transfer of all firearms.	Police/Common Council/Health
	* Criminalize the false filing of a weapon as lost or stolen. Require reporting of firearms lost or stolen or strengthen penalties.	Police
	Continue to support legislation for increased prosecutors assigned to Milwaukee.	Police
	Support reintroduction of 2007 AB-676 to allow for access by law enforcement agencies to juvenile records, including criminal, municipal and school attendance records.	Police
	Require handguns sold in the State of Wisconsin to be micro-stamped.	Police
	* Change the format/material/placement of vehicle registration stickers so they are not as easy to steal.	Police
	* Adopt U.S. Code Title 18 within the search warrant statute to allow for electronic communication search warrants.	Police
Economic Well-Being	Better regulate the pay day loan and small consumer loan industry.	DOA – IRD/ Budget
	* Support incentives to grow water-based industry in Milwaukee.	DOA – IRD
	Propose repealing last sentence of §66.0901(2) which prevents first class cities from prequalifying bidders.	City Attorney

Economic Well-Being	Amend §32.05 to require that County Condemnation Commissions (CCC) provide written finding and conclusions, and that appeals from the CCC may, at appealing party's election, be by writ of certiorari review of CCC's record and decision <u>or</u> to the court as currently provided.	City Attorney
	Amend §66.1333 to allow the Redevelopment Authority of the City of Milwaukee (RACM) to enter a spot-blighted parcel "to make inspection, surveys, appraisals, soundings or test borings, and obtain a court order for this purpose if entry is denied or resisted."	City Attorney
	Amend 2005 Act 442 which shortened the "answer" period in litigation from 45 days to 20 days. Under this proposal local government (cities, villages, towns, counties, school boards, redevelopment authorities) would retain the 45-day answer period similar to state government and insurance companies.	City Attorney
	* Change the composition of a regional planning commission containing a city of the first class such that membership on the commission is proportional to the populations of member counties. (SEWRPC) (C.C. #080313)	Common Council
Environmental/ Sustainability	* Provide more flexibility to municipalities in meeting the non-agricultural water quality standards in NR 151 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code consistent with the legislative efforts of the Alliance of Cities.	DOA – Budget/ DPW
	Support "e-waste" legislation mandating manufacturer responsibility for recycling of consumer electronics.	DPW
	*Support legislation to authorize the Me2 program.	Office of Sustainability
Infrastructure	* Include cargo handling equipment as eligible for Harbor Assistance Program grant funds.	Port
Neighborhoods and Housing	Support licensing/certification of property appraisers to reduce property flipping.	DOA – IRD
	* Support protections for renters living in rental units involved in a foreclosure proceedings.	DOA – IRD/DCD
	Support better regulation of the Mortgage Broker Industry and high cost loans.	DOA-IRD/DCD
	Support legislation prohibiting Foreclosure Rescue Scams.	DOA-IRD/DCD

Neighborhoods and Housing	* Support legislation that expands restrictions on the purchase of used home furnishings to include junk dealers.	DOA-IRD/DCD
	* Support efforts to secure Neighborhood Stabilization funding from State's allocation.	DOA/DCD
	Support extension of TID increments for purposes of funding an affordable housing trust fund.	DOA-IRD/ Common Council
	Expand 2005 Act 326 to authorize a 1 st class city to establish resident only parking zones within various commuter impacted parking areas throughout the city.	Common Council
	Expand 2005 Act 186 to allow for the collection of neighborhood improvement district (NID) special assessments from residential properties containing less than eight residential dwelling units.	Common Council
	* Require that, in a city of the 1 st Class, before a property deed can be recorded at the county register of deeds office, the property owner must show proof that the property ownership has been recorded with the city.	Neighborhood Services
	* Require that, in a city of the 1 st Class, when a lender files a foreclosure action in circuit court, they are required to notify the city clerk.	Neighborhood Services
	* Create a statewide employer-assisted housing tax credit program.	DOA – IRD
	*Establish minimum standards for accessibility/visibility for new single- and two-family dwellings similar to multi-family dwellings.	DCD
	* Amend state building code to permit use of recycled wood/building materials in construction.	Common Council

STATE BUDGET INITIATIVES
2009-10 Legislative Session

CATEGORY	PROPOSAL	DEPARTMENT
Administration and Finance	Support the Alliance of Cities REDI Shared Revenue proposal and support any return to growth in this appropriation.	DOA – IRD
	Eliminate or refund the state motor fuel tax paid by local units of government.	DOA–IRD/Budget
	Support legislation that enables municipalities to collect 911 surcharges on phone bills.	DOA – IRD
	* Seek legislation to allow us to retain unclaimed funds in the Employees’ Retirement System Trust, rather than pay them to the State of Wisconsin.	ERS
Community Health	Fund a School of Public Health at UW-Milwaukee.	Health
	Support legislation and policies that promote funding for evidence based home visiting programs and public health nurse home visit programs.	Health
	* Lobby for a state lead abatement tax credit.	DOA-Budget
Crime and Public Safety	Support funding for Targeted Neighborhood Policing overtime costs.	Police
Economic Well-Being	Provide permanent funding for summer youth employment program in Milwaukee -- \$1 million in next biennial budget.	DCD
	* Support the Milwaukee Urban Jobs Plan	Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board
	* Support funding for redevelopment of the 30 th Street Industrial Corridor.	DOA–IRD/DCD
	Seek legislation that provides an annual adjustment to the Homestead Property Tax Credit program for inflation retroactive to 2001 and for future annual inflation adjustments. Also raise the income threshold to \$30,000 for the WI Property Tax Deferral Loan Program.	Common Council

* Denotes new or modified initiative for 2009-10.

Education	Correct the School Choice Funding Flaws.	Mayor/Common Council
	* Seek funding of \$100,000 to support a full-time educator to train child care providers on developing the Six Skills of early literacy and promote literacy development skills with parents.	Library
	Support continued funding of the Wisconsin Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.	Library
	Increase funding to support the full cost of providing Interlibrary Service loans of library materials with the rest of the State of Wisconsin.	Library
	Increase public library systems aid to the statutory goal of 13% of expenditures from local and county sources for public libraries.	Library
	Officially recognize and fund Milwaukee's Central Library as the State Resource Library.	Library
	* Support community efforts to bring an inner city boarding school to Milwaukee (SEED).	DOA – IRD
Environmental/ Sustainability	Seek to end the practice of diverting money from the Recycling Fund for non-recycling purposes and increase recycling grant amounts to municipalities.	DPW
	* Redirect 20% of the forest property tax revenue to municipal forestry divisions to fund the maintenance, preservation and restoration of the urban forest.	DOA – Budget
	Extend the Clean Water Fund Program and expand its funding.	DOA – Budget
Infrastructure	Increase funding available to local communities for the rehabilitation and improvement of local roads.	DOA/DPW
	Support a dedicated funding source for the local share of both the capital and operating costs of KRM, and a dedicated source for the local share of capital and operating costs for local public transit within the City of Milwaukee and Milwaukee County.	Common Council
	*Support funding for the rehabilitation of structurally deficient movable bridges.	DPW
	*Seek a local portion of the gas tax to pay for local infrastructure and mass transit.	DOA–IRD/Budget