

# **James A. Bohl, Jr.**

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## **Profile**

Accomplished local government legislator and administrator with a proven record of service and demonstrated proficiency in workplace management. Possesses a comprehensive knowledge of public policy, with academic and research experience. Expert understanding of administrative and legislative processes, with a proficiency in implementing and reforming organizational strategies for positive outcomes. Exceptional leadership, interpersonal and communication skills, with strengths in writing and media relations, and a keen attention to details. Team player who works inclusively and collaboratively with diverse constituency and work groups. Extensive experience in working with large-scale budgets, assessing and devising legislative proposals, and in branding information to the public, press and private sector.

## **Professional Experience**

### **Alderman, 5th District, Milwaukee Common Council (2000- Present)**

Serve as full-time district representative responsible for constituent services, economic development and representation for nearly 44,000 residents. Exercise full-time policy making and legislative functions for the city, including the adoption of ordinances and resolutions, the formation and approval of the city's annual \$1.6 billion budget, the enactment of appropriation and tax levy ordinances, the confirmation of mayoral appointees, and oversight of the city's 8 charter schools.

- Hosted hundreds of meetings with citizens, neighborhoods and community groups. Meet regularly with departmental administrators to shape policies and services for the district and city. Devise community newsletters, press releases and web page content to shape district communication. Extensive interplay with media and the press.
- Authored hundreds of pieces of legislation, led numerous policy initiatives, and drafted reports and communiques to administration, Council members and staff.
- Present Chair of the Zoning, Neighborhoods & Development Committee with oversight over city development, zoning, land use planning, historic preservation, Tax Incremental Financing Districts, building codes and housing projects.
- Former Licenses Committee Chair, responsible for running quasi-judicial licensing hearings, coordinating the agenda and managing staff from three city departments which oversee various city licenses and permit applications.
- Member of Public Works and Steering & Rules Committees. Chair of Skywalk Design Review Committee. Chaired city's Water Quality Task Force, Flooding Prevention Task Force, Taxicab Review Board and Milwaukee Public School's Truancy Abatement Task Force. Former vice-chair of Economic Development Committee, and member of the Public Safety and Judiciary & Legislation Committees, and Local Business Action Team.

## **Select Accomplishments**

- Shepherded billions of dollars in new city development over the past 5 years.
- Initiated innovative TID road funding mechanism, providing tens of millions of dollars in revenues for city streetcar system, local road construction and lake front parkway that opened 25-acres of prime lakefront space with over \$1 billion in anticipated future development.
- Led efforts to revive and gain passage of four major stalled developments by brokering collaborative agreements to bridge impasses between community groups, developers and elected representatives.
- Instituted city solar panel development mandate and coal tar/high P.A.H sealant ban, and co-led efforts on a multi-governmental Milwaukee River reclamation project.
- Managed workgroup creating the low income housing rehabilitation and job training (HOME) program.

- Formulated a comprehensive strategy for addressing the city's ailing infrastructure needs. Reforms have reduced road replacement cycle from 163 years to 56 years. Received *Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel* editorial support for road TIF funding plan as "an innovative way to improve city road conditions and create local jobs."
- Piloted measures establishing the Milwaukee Police Department's Community Service Officer Program and city-wide redistricting plan. Recognized "Alderman of the Year" by the Milwaukee Police Association for efforts.
- Guided planning and implementation of a successful district flood mitigation program. Program participation rate of 94% of 565 targeted homes far exceeded department experience of an earlier pilot with 4% participation.
- Executed administrative and overall strategic direction for the creation of a new 20-acre environmental park at the former Hartung Quarry site.
- Devised and implemented a pioneering multi-agency, private-public drug disposal mail-back initiative.

**Metropolitan Milwaukee Sewage District (MMSD) Commissioner (2014- present)**

Serve as one of eleven commissioners that establish and enforce policy and budgeting authority for the regional governmental district agency that provides water reclamation and flood management services for 1.1 million customers in 28 communities throughout the greater Milwaukee area.

**English/Math Teacher- Milwaukee Public Schools (1998-2000)**

Teacher of English, American Lit and general math classes. Responsible for classroom preparation, management and instruction, while working with a diverse student body.

**Congressional Aide- U.S. House of Representatives- Rep. Tom Barrett (1996-1998)**

Coordinated the Congressman's schedule, and wrote speeches, citations and congratulatory commendations for district functions. Oversaw constituent casework for the IRS, Federal Bureau of Prisons, USPS, and OSHA. Staffed and represented the Congressman at district events.

**Board Memberships**

**Visit Milwaukee/Greater Milwaukee Convention and Visitor's Bureau (2000-2012)**

Served on Intergovernmental Policy Committee. Initiated board effort to proactively lobby the state legislature for enhanced funding streams.

**Milwaukee Survive Alive Foundation, Acting President/Vice President (2001-2012)**

Championed expanding the foundation's core mission beyond fire prevention education to include a student anti-violence/anger management program. Led efforts to diversify the board composition. Initiatives include the formation of instruction and educational materials for fire safety program being provided in multiple languages, and efforts to make the foundation web site more interactive to assist student/teacher follow-up and learning.

**Education**

**Public Administration Certification Program, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, 2012-2016**

**Master of Arts Degree- History, Marquette University, 1996 (High Honors)**

**Bachelor of Arts Degree- History and Political Science (minor), Marquette University, 1993 (Cum Laude)**