



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE  
*Milwaukee County*  
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## **Statement on Today's Arena Funding Proposal Announcement**

I would like to thank the Governor, the State Legislature, the Milwaukee Bucks, the City, and especially my incredibly hardworking and committed team at the County for all their hard work and resilience. Throughout this process, I have focused solely on helping craft a solution that all parties could agree to and that delivers what I truly believe will be a very significant net positive for Milwaukeeans and the State of Wisconsin.

Together, we have struck a deal that not only keeps the Bucks in Milwaukee, but will create jobs, generate millions of dollars in economic activity and property value, and provide a great return on investment for taxpayers.

In an era of often bitter partisanship, Democrats and Republicans came together to produce a monumental outcome that will provide a once-in-a-generation benefit to Milwaukee and the entire state. Today's agreement to finance construction of a new arena represents a true public-private partnership, with the public investment being split amongst the State, the County, and the City. It is easy to say that we are capable of achieving big things. It is harder to demonstrate. Today we demonstrated that, together, big things truly can be achieved in Milwaukee.

In Milwaukee and Wisconsin, pride in the Milwaukee Bucks is something that crosses all geographic, political, and socioeconomic lines. The benefits of today's agreement cross all those lines as well. From good jobs to state and local tax revenue to ancillary development, all residents benefit from and have a stake in the construction of the new arena.

The County will continue to be actively involved in this project to ensure the responsible use of tax dollars and to demand that public investments bring a significant public benefit. This sort of vigilance is how, over the last four years, we at the County have dropped nearly a billion dollars off our long-term liability and reduced debt, resulting in credit rating increases and higher levels of service, all without ever proposing a tax increase.

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I support this proposal because I strongly believe that the public benefit warranted the public investment. Going forward, I am committed to remaining vigilant to ensure we get that return.

I am eager to share the details on how Milwaukee County has and will contribute to making the new arena a reality. Over the coming weeks, my staff and I will be participating in a number of events to discuss with the public how the new arena will strengthen our economy for the next generation.

On Milwaukee!

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