

# 2<sup>nd</sup> District Local CONNECTION



2nd District Milwaukee  
County Supervisor

**Khalif  
Rainey**

901 N. 9th Street, RM 201  
Milwaukee, WI 53233

P: (414) 278-4278

F: (414) 223-1380

khalif.rainey@milwcnty.com  
county.milwaukee.gov/Rainey



## In this 2013 Winter Newsletter:

Message from Supervisor Rainey

Milwaukee County Free Days

2014 County Budget Approved with  
No Tax Levy Increase

Budget Amendment Keeps Indoor  
Pools Open

Budget Amendment to Help McGovern  
Park Wins Approval

Supervisor Rainey Wins Approval of  
Parks Wi-Fi Proposal in County Budget

Supervisor Rainey Named as Alternate  
Member to Cultural Amenities  
Task Force

Supervisor Rainey Receives Emerging  
Leader Award

Dear Neighbors,

It has been a privilege to represent you since I was elected earlier this year. I have learned much about the County, but most important I have learned much about the needs of the 2nd District and I have worked hard to serve those needs.

Much has happened in the past several months, and this newsletter is designed to keep you abreast of some of the County Board's activities. In addition to passing a County budget with no tax levy increase, the Board restored essential law enforcement positions that were removed from the County Executive's budget, worked to improve the mental health system and kept both Noyes and Pulaski indoor pools open.

In addition, the Board approved my proposal to explore the possibility of creating Wi-Fi hot spots in all Milwaukee County parks to improve Internet connections in under-served areas while moving Milwaukee County into 21st Century communications.

Again, it has been an honor to serve you, and I hope you will feel free to contact me with questions and concerns. You can reach me at 278-4278 or khalif.rainey@milwcnty.com. I look forward to hearing from you. I hope you have great holidays!

Sincerely,

Supervisor Khalif Rainey



**Khalif  
RAINEY**

2nd District Milwaukee County Supervisor

THE OFFICIAL 2013 WINTER NEWSLETTER FROM



### Supervisor Khalif Rainey, District 2

Milwaukee County Courthouse  
901 N. 9th Street, Room 201  
Milwaukee, WI 53233

PRSRST STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
MILWAUKEE, WI  
PERMIT 1630

Enjoy  
**FREE**  
Milwaukee County  
attractions!

Complimentary admission to  
Milwaukee County Residents  
**ONLY** with a valid photo ID  
on the following days:



MILWAUKEE ART MUSEUM

**Free the first Thursday  
of every month  
Free for all visitors**

Visit [www.mam.org](http://www.mam.org) for more information



**Free on Mondays  
from 9:00 a.m. - Noon**  
Excludes major holidays

Visit [www.milwaukeehomes.org](http://www.milwaukeehomes.org)  
for more information



**2014 Free Days:**  
January 4, February 1, March 1,  
April 5, November 1 & December 6  
**Special Holidays:**  
Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day  
& New Year's Day

Visit [www.milwaukeezoo.org](http://www.milwaukeezoo.org)  
for more information

# 2<sup>nd</sup> District Local CONNECTION

## 2014 County Budget Approved with No Tax Levy Increase

Without raising the tax levy, the Milwaukee County Board passed a responsible budget for 2014 that keeps Noyes and Pulaski pools open, funds important deferred maintenance and invests in public safety and mental health services. The vote on the \$1.3 billion budget was 14-4, with Supervisor Rainey voting to approve it.

Approving most of the County Executive's recommended budget, the Board also corrected errors in the proposal while providing additional services. The Board was presented an unbalanced budget with several significant mistakes totaling \$3 million. The Board fixed that hole without raising the tax levy.

The County Executive vetoed 39 provisions in the budget, but the Board overturned all but one.

In addition to keeping the tax levy the same as last year's, the budget also included other items including:

- Funding for the ShotSpotter program, which will help law enforcement officials to reduce gun violence in our parks and our neighborhoods
- Moves ahead with community-based mental health treatment while providing a capacity study that will help mental health officials best determine how many individuals can be placed in community-based settings. This ensures there is a safety net to keep patients and staff secure while providing greater flexibility to the Behavioral Health Division
- Restores sworn law enforcement positions that will enhance public safety
- Reduces the salaries of highly paid bureaucrats and brings them in line with their counterparts at the state
- Keeps Noyes and Pulaski indoor pools open. The County Executive had proposed to close the pools and replace them with a splash pad and a skate park

This budget reflects the fact that the County Board listened to the people. Budgets are about priorities, and the 2014 budget passed by the Board moves the County forward and provides the services and amenities that the people have demanded.

## Budget Amendment Keeps Indoor Pools Open

When the County Executive proposed closing Noyes and Pulaski indoor pools and replacing them with a skate park and a splash pad, Supervisor Rainey co-sponsored an amendment to the County budget with Chairwoman Marina Dimitrijevic to keep the pools open. The amendment passed 18-0 and the pools will get much-needed repairs and will be open for future generations.

In addition to County funding for the pools, a donation of \$5,000 from a Pulaski indoor pool user will be matched by Brown Deer philanthropist Stan Kass, making it a \$10,000 donation. Mr. Kass previously donated \$100,000 and agreed to match any additional donations to help keep both indoor pools open.

We are grateful to Mr. Kass for his support, and I am excited that these two important amenities will remain open.

## Budget Amendment to Help McGovern Park Wins Approval

The Milwaukee County Board approved a budget amendment by Supervisor Rainey that will refurbish the basketball courts at McGovern Park.

"I am pleased to share this news not only with the residents of the 2nd District but the entire County that I have successfully fought to secure much-needed improvements to the McGovern Park basketball courts," Rainey said.

Rainey, who is Vice Chairman of the County Board's Parks, Recreation and Culture Committee, put together the amendment which will mean \$248,000 for the planning, design and construction of the four northern courts at the park. The work will be done without raising taxes.

"As many know, McGovern Park is home to some of Milwaukee County's most-utilized and most historic basketball courts," Rainey said. "These much-needed improvements will provide our County's youth with a safe outlet to participate in recreational activities."

## Supervisor Rainey Wins Approval of Parks Wi-Fi Proposal in County Budget

Supervisor Khalif Rainey was pleased that the County Board approved his budget amendment to explore the possibility of creating Wi-Fi hot spots in all Milwaukee County parks, saying that Wi-Fi would enhance the quality of life throughout the County while providing Internet access to under-served areas.

This plan could be a real benefit to under-served communities, whose residents often can only use smart phones as their on-ramp to the Internet. Milwaukee County needs to move into the 21st Century when it comes to access to the Internet. Creating these hot spots in our parks will not only help under-served communities gain access to the Internet, it will improve the experience of everyone who uses the parks.

Rainey's budget amendment instructs the County to "explore building partnerships with agencies that provide technology and networking services, including establishing costs, locations, equipment, providers and logistics." The amendment requires that an informational report on the issue be provided to the Parks, Energy and Environment Committee in March, 2014.

This is really just a first step in creating County-wide Internet access in our parks. Our parks are already among our most valuable assets, and creating Wi-Fi hot spots will allow greater Internet access. This is a chance to show how government can really work to bring much-needed services to under-served populations while enhancing the experience of using our parks.

Exploring and seizing the opportunity to create Wi-Fi hot spots would greatly benefit low-income families, college students and even tourists.

## Supervisor Rainey Named as Alternate Member to Cultural and Amenities Task Force

County Board Chairwoman Marina Dimitrijevic appointed Supervisor Rainey as an alternate to the "Cultural and Entertainment Capital Needs Task Force." Chairwoman Dimitrijevic will serve as the primary member of the task force, but Supervisor Rainey will be kept abreast of key issues and attend meetings when she cannot attend.

The task force, commissioned by the Metropolitan Milwaukee Association of Commerce, will study and recommend how funding will be provided not only for a new downtown arena, but for other cultural assets such as the Milwaukee County Zoo, the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts and museums.

This task force has difficult work ahead as it deliberates over how to fund various amenities, including a proposed new arena.

"I will keep my constituents informed of all major developments on the task force," Rainey said. "The task force's decisions will have ramifications for the entire region, and I am pleased to be part of the discussion as we move forward."

## Supervisor Rainey Receives Emerging Leader Award



Supervisor Rainey was presented with an "Emerging Leader" award by U.S. Rep. Gwen Moore at the 2013 Annual Legislative Conference of the Congressional Black Caucus.



Photo Courtesy of the Milwaukee Courier



**Khalif RAINEY**  
2nd District Milwaukee County Supervisor