

Privileged to Serve

Moving Milwaukee County FORWARD Together



November 2016

THE OFFICIAL E-NEWSLETTER FROM SUPERVISOR STEVE F. TAYLOR



MILWAUKEE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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

P: (414) 278-4267

F: (414) 223-1380

steve.taylor@milwaukeecountywi.gov

www.county.milwaukee.gov/
Taylor

COUNTY ASSIGNMENTS:

Board of Supervisors,
2nd Vice-Chairman

Chairman

Economic & Community
Development

Parks, Energy & Environment

Milwaukee County
Commission on Aging

Milwaukee Regional
Innovation Center, Board of
Directors

Milwaukee Child Welfare
Partnership Council

Dear Friends,

I hope you were able to enjoy your Thanksgiving holiday with family and friends. The Milwaukee County Board recently wrapped up deliberations on the 2017 Budget, and I am pleased to announce some more positive news for the 9th District. Once again, I was able to include capital projects in the budget that will greatly improve our infrastructure. A list of projects can be found in the newsletter that follows.

I chose not to vote in favor of the budget for two critical reasons. The first being that the County Executive proposed a \$60 wheel tax; although the County Board cut it in half (now \$30), I still felt that we needed to make tougher cuts, instead of going to the taxpayers for more money. The second was the property tax increase; I still believe that if we eliminate programs like the GO Pass (free bus rides to seniors and individuals with qualifying disabilities), we would not have to ask the taxpayers to bail us out.



Supervisor Taylor speaking at the November meeting of the Milwaukee County Board.

Please feel free to contact my office with any issues or concerns. As I have stated in the past, it is an honor to serve you. And, together with your help, we can continue to Move Milwaukee County Forward.

All My Best,

MILWAUKEE COUNTY 2017 BUDGET RECAP

On September 30th, County Executive Chris Abele released his 2017 Milwaukee County recommended budget to the public, and on October 3rd he presented it to the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors. The 2017 recommended budget called for total expenditures of \$1,189,597,484, a reduction of over \$184 million from the 2015 budget, or a 13.44% decrease. The recommended property tax levy was \$291,174,114, an increase of over \$4.1 million, or 1.46%. The County Board's Finance and Audit Committee spent the month of October deliberating the budget, and made a number of changes. The most noteworthy was cutting in half the Executive's \$60 wheel tax proposal, as well as reducing his proposed property tax increase.

The County budget was adopted on November 7th by a vote of 11-7. Supervisor Taylor voted NO as he felt that more sacrifices needed to be made due to projected future deficits. Items like the GO Pass (reduced fare bus rides to seniors and individuals with qualifying disabilities) need to be eliminated and cuts need to be made to transit routes; another option would be to consider raising standard fares. He feels that the taxpayers just cannot continue down this path of fiscal irresponsibility any longer.

9TH DISTRICT CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECTS

The 2017 Milwaukee County Budget included a number of capital improvements in the 9th District. Supervisor Taylor's top priority since taking office in 2012 has been his commitment to fixing the district's failing infrastructure. This year, you saw the completion of St. Martins Rd. and improvements to 76th St. near Ryan Rd. in Franklin. Next year you will notice improvements being made to 13th St. south of Ryan Rd. in Oak Creek, as well as the reconstruction of County Trunk Highway H (Old Ryan Rd.) in Franklin, to name a few. This past spring, many of you saw the work being done at Hales Corners Pool. The roof, which was deteriorating, was replaced as well as the pool liner. Supervisor Taylor's commitment to Hales Corners continues as he turns his focus to Boerner Botanical Gardens and its needs.

A tentative schedule of the upcoming major public works projects is as follows: 2017 – W. Ryan Rd.: 95th St. to 112th St., Boerner Botanical Gardens recirculation pump for rock garden, Boerner Botanical Gardens bathroom reconstruction project, S. 13th St. W. Ryan Rd. to Oakwood Rd. (Mill and overlay), two Whitnall Park Bridges over Root River; 2018 – S. 13th St.: Rawson Ave. to Drexel Ave.; and 2019 – S. 13th St.: Drexel Ave. to Puetz Rd.

MILWAUKEE AIRPORT SUSTAINABILITY SURVEY

Milwaukee County is developing a Sustainability Management Plan for Mitchell Airport (MKE). When complete, this plan will guide efforts to reduce the Airport's carbon footprint, waste, and energy use. It will also manage resources efficiently and improve the Airport experience for travelers, tenants, employees and neighbors.

For more than 20 years, MKE has implemented innovative programs to increase recycling, manage runoff with green infrastructure, and redevelop buildings to LEED standards. The Sustainability Management Plan represents the next step in making the Airport a leader in sustainability and enhancing Milwaukee County's reputation.

Please help by taking this short survey [here](#). It should take only five minutes to complete. Your responses regarding sustainability at MKE will help guide our understanding of current perceptions of the Airport and help refine sustainability focus areas. Thank you for your time.

LEGISLATIVE ROUNDUP

The next meeting of the Milwaukee County board of Supervisors will be held on Thursday, December 15th at 9:00 a.m. in Courthouse Room 200. The January 2017 edition of *Privileged to Serve* will feature a full recap of the upcoming December County Board meeting. To view the votes on all actions taken by the County Board and its committees, please visit the [Milwaukee County Legislative Information Center](#).

WEHR NATURE CENTER

Homemade Holiday Open House

Saturday, December 3rd, 11:00 am-3:00 pm

Bring your children to Wehr to create homemade gifts from natural, recyclable and reusable objects. Children can make and take three different projects for the admission fee (additional projects are \$1.00). \$6 per participant, \$5 for members. Stop by anytime during the Open House hours to make your works of art! [Click here](#) to learn more.

Owl Prowl for Families

Saturday, December 17th

3:30 pm-5:30 pm (Twilight Hike)

6:30 pm-8:30 pm (Night Hike)

Join a naturalist for an evening with the owls. An interactive program will highlight the amazing adaptations of our nocturnal neighbors. Come prepared for a walk in the woodlands of Wehr in search for the great horned owl and Eastern screech owl. Tickets MUST be purchased by December 16th. Please [click here](#) to buy or to learn more.



Please click [here](#) for the entire Milwaukee County Parks Event Calendar

Milwaukee County Free Days!

Complimentary admission to Milwaukee County residents ONLY with valid photo ID on the following days:



FREE the first **FRIDAY** of each month!

Free for all visitors. Visit mam.org for additional details.



"Thank You Thursdays" from 9 am-8 pm!

Free general admission to MPM on the first Thursday of each month. Visit mpm.edu for additional details.



2016 Free Days:
Oct. 8, Nov. 5,
Dec. 3

Special Holiday Free Days:
Thanksgiving, Christmas Day &
New Year's Day

Visit milwaukeezoo.org for additional details.



FREE on Mondays from 9 am-Noon!

Excludes major holidays. Visit milwaueedomes.org for additional details.

BOERNER CORNER

Bulbs for the Holidays

December 1st

6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Hyacinth, paperwhite narcissus, amaryllis, and other bulbs can be grown throughout winter. Learn how to force bulbs in order to grow these plants inside and get beautiful flowers for the Holidays! \$15 for the general public, \$10 for members. [Click here](#) to purchase tickets or learn more!

Holiday Gift Fair with Santa Claus

Sunday, December 4th

10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

This December, the Friends of Boerner Botanical Gardens offer you a chance to skip the holiday shopping mall madness and enjoy a relaxed morning with Santa and FBBG's own take on a Christkindlmarket- filled with gift ideas for your loved ones ranging from the quirky to the sublime. Featuring: **free event admission**; visits with Santa and Mrs. Claus; unique, high quality gifts for sale from area artists and businesses; musical entertainment; children's crafts from FBBG; special holiday brunch available from Zilli Hospitality at regular price*; fun for the whole family! (*Bring a new, unwrapped toy to donate to Toys for Tots during the event, and **get \$5 off** the price of brunch! Limit 1 discount per party.)

This event takes place in the Visitor Center and is open to the public. For more information, call 414-525-5661, email swarran@fbbg.org, or [click here](#).

Holiday Décor Workshop

Tuesday, December 6th

6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Vicki Kunz of *La Tulipe* will show you how to create a "kissing ball". These unique holiday accents make wonderful gifts, can be hung indoors or outdoors, last for weeks, and smell wonderful! For more information or to purchase your ticket, please [click here](#).