Patricia Jursik *Update*

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September 2011 E-NEWS

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Parks, Energy & Environment

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The South Shore Option: Forum for Economic Development

It is my pleasure to invite all constituents to attend a unique, one-stop economic development forum at the Cudahy Library. Representatives from the cities of St. Francis, South Milwaukee, Cudahy and Oak Creek as well as Milwaukee County and the Milwaukee Gateway Aerotropolis Corporation will discuss their current development efforts.

This forum is a rare opportunity for citizens to be a part of planning for multi-community development in one meeting and learn about efforts toward economic growth in South Shore communities. Milwaukee County will discuss the Hoan Bridge repair, extension of 794 Lake Parkway, mass transit and other matters.

Each city/agency will provide an overview of their current development efforts and answer any questions the public or others may have. In addition, plans and particular development initiatives will be displayed at tables for public viewing in an open house setting.

Where: Cudahy Family Library
3500 Library Drive, Cudahy, WI
Winter Garden Meeting Room

When: Wednesday, September 7, 2011
6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Special thanks to Joseph Bukowski, Jr., summer volunteer intern working on this forum.

Governor Scott Walker, 8th District Volunteer Intern Joseph Bukowski, Jr., and Supervisor Jursik participated in the groundbreaking of Innovation Park, the academic research/business development campus that is under construction on the Milwaukee County Grounds in Wauwatosa.

2012 Budget

The County Executive held a public listening session at Kelly Senior Center in late August. Attendees learned about the dire budget facing Milwaukee County. The State has cut $28.7 million in funds that Milwaukee County relies on for courts, mental health, transit, child support enforcement, health and human services programs and general needs. Rising health care and pension costs contribute to budget problems. As the County funds required services, it will struggle to preserve funding for "discretionary" services like parks, buses and emergency medical services.

At the listening session, many South Shore residents spoke about the importance of sensibly preserving County services. I noted statements in support of Route 15, Route 48 Flyer and paratransit service which allow residents to maintain independence, live within their means and connect to jobs, commerce and medical appointments. Senior Center participants stressed the critical role of senior meal and exercise programming to their well-being. We also heard that our fine parks ensure the quality of life that makes our County a great place in which to work and reside. Alternatives to incarceration, including effective drug and alcohol treatment, were encouraged. Finally, residents advocated to maintain social services during this difficult economic time.

I am committed to maintaining safety net services while holding the line on taxes.

Oak Creek Watercourse

The Oak Creek Watershed (including the Cities of Oak Creek, South Milwaukee and Cudahy as well as the Airport) drains into the Oak Creek Watercourse. There are many issues of concern surrounding this Watercourse, including recent extreme storm events resulting in flooding around the Watercourse; contaminated sediment at Mill Pond; the condition of the dam; aging sewer infrastructure in Grant Park and Oak Creek Parkway; and streambank and Lake Michigan bluff erosion which threatens property.

I have worked with our regional planning agency to facilitate meetings with the City of South Milwaukee and the Milwaukee County Parks Department. We have drawn on the knowledge of other agencies including the Department of Natural Resources.

As a result of these talks, the City of South Milwaukee and the County Parks Department will create an agreement defining responsibility for emergencies, maintenance and improvement of the Oak Creek Watercourse. Following is a brief explanation of some relevant concerns.

- Long ago, the City placed concrete channels in parts of the Creek. Now, vegetation in the streambed and the structural soundness of bridges over the stream are of concern.

- The Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission may be able to research the options for resolving dam issues and the potential for additional washouts of the road at the Mill Pond. The community would need to consider this data and reach a conclusion on the best future for the area. Policymakers would need to execute and seek funding for any decision.

- Farther downstream, sediment, stormwater and antiquated infrastructure have eroded the Creek banks and Lake Michigan bluffs, resulting in slumping slopes, an eroded coastline, and imminent loss of more parkland. Milwaukee County has

proposed a project to resolve the eroding bluff. Storm and sanitary sewer structures need to be repaired.

- Finally, the community needs to determine priorities. It may wish to invest in protection for structures that are threatened by extreme rainfall and buildings experiencing sanitary sewer backups.

These are just a few of the many issues that must be resolved.

Bicycle & Pedestrian Access on Hoan Bridge

On August 23, State Senator Chris Larson and Representatives Christine Sinicki and Jon Richards hosted a meeting at the Beulah Brinton Community Center to discuss bicycle and pedestrian access on the Hoan Bridge. Over 250 citizens attended the meeting, and a vigorous discussion ensued. I attended and spoke: my concern is the loss of a lane on the Hoan. As we continue to plan for extension of 794 Lake Parkway through Oak Creek, I believe that traffic will only increase on the Hoan. Three lanes both south and north will be necessary to accommodate this traffic. The Port of Milwaukee is one of the busiest ports on the Great Lakes. We need to ensure that commercial trucking will have adequate traffic lanes.

I would like to see creative thinking on the bicycle option. An auxiliary bridge for bicycles and pedestrians would be an exciting addition to the Hoan. It would complement our long-range planning for an even more attractive lakefront along with the museums, festival grounds and parks. I suggested at the meeting that we sponsor a design competition with Milwaukee School of Engineering, UW-Milwaukee's School of Architecture and Urban Planning and Marquette University's College of Engineering to develop an exciting new bike bridge that would be supported by the Hoan arch. There are many feasible ways such a bridge could be built, and I have already talked with several engineers that tell me it is possible. We have time, but it is necessary to get this planning underway now. Under no circumstance should we delay the replacement of the deck construction scheduled to begin in 2013. We all worked too hard to save this bridge to now have delays.

Restoring Grant Park's Seven Bridges

The Parks Department is planning for bridge repair in September and October. The lakeside bridge will undergo a formal bidding process in early September.

Update on Airport Runway Safety Area Construction

Construction began in 2009 on Milwaukee County General Mitchell International Airport's Runway Safety Area (RSA) project. When completed, this multi-year project will bring the RSAs for each of the airport's two main runways into compliance with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regulations. Each RSA is an area at the end of the runway which is 1,000 feet long, 500 feet wide, and free of all obstructions, for the safety of airplanes and their passengers, should the aircraft overshoot the end of the runway.

One runway is closed at a time to accommodate the many pieces of heavy equipment used to create the safety area. Here is the planned construction schedule:

Now to mid-October 2011
The east-west runway will be limited in its use and closed daily during most weekdays. Therefore, almost all aircraft activity will be on the north-south runway.

Mid-October 2011 to May 2012
Flight patterns will return to normal. They are generally determined by wind direction and velocity, along with amount of air traffic taking off and landing.

Early May 2012 to late August 2012
The north-south runway will be closed to all air traffic. During this time period, the east-west runway will be the only runway available to commercial airlines.

Transit Meetings

Learn about how cuts to transit funding and the proposed restructuring of our bus routes will affect the ability of businesses to connect with workers and customers and the ability of individuals to access jobs, shopping, health care and other critical destinations. Find out how you can have a voice in the future of transit.

Please join me at a community meeting on Tuesday, September 13, at Cudahy Family Library. You may attend one of two meetings from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. or 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. Details are available here: http://county.milwaukee.gov/Community8455.htm

This event is hosted by The Gateway to Milwaukee, South Suburban Chamber of Commerce, Transit Now and Milwaukee Aging Consortium.

Community Calendar

Thursday-Sunday, September 1-4 – St. Francis Days
At Milton Vretenar Park, 4224 S. Kirkwood Av, St. Francis. Parade on Saturday at 11am from Lions Community Center, west on Howard Av., south on Kinnickinnic Av., east on Lunham Av. to the park. www.stfrancisdays.com

Friday, September 2 – Senior FREE Day at the Zoo, 9am
Free admission to guests 55 and better with ID until 3pm. The parking fee remains in effect. Enjoy activities and music. At Milwaukee County Zoo, 10001 West Blue Mound Road, Milwaukee. milwaukeezoo.org 256-5466

Monday, September 5 – Doggie Dip at Cool Waters, 6:30-8pm
Your dog swims for $5 before Parks drains the pools for the season! Admission presale is Sunday, September 4, 10am-6pm, at Cool Waters, 2028 S. 124th St, Greenfield. For details: 257-PARK (7275) or www.county.milwaukee.gov/DoggieDip11404.htm

Wednesday, September 7 – The South Shore Option: Forum for Economic Development, 6-8pm
One-stop forum to learn about economic development plans throughout the South Shore. At Cudahy Library, 3500 Library Drive, Cudahy.

Thursday, September 8 – Tammy & Aaron; South Milwaukee Municipal Band concerts at South Milwaukee Downtown Market, 5:30-7pm
At 11th and Milwaukee Avenues, South Milwaukee. www.SMDowntownMarket.org

Thursday, September 8 – Grant Park "Park Watch" meeting, 6:30pm
At Grant Park Clubhouse, 100 Hawthorne Av, South Milwaukee. 764-7262 www.fogp.org

Thursday, September 8 – Friends of Grant Park meeting, 7pm (following "Park Watch")
At Grant Park Clubhouse, 100 Hawthorne Av, South Milwaukee. 764-0612 www.fogp.org

Saturday, September 10 – Garlic Mustard Pickers concert, 4-6pm
At LaFollette Park, 9418 W. Washington St, West Allis.

September 10 & 11 – Frank Mots International Kite Festival
10am-6pm (Saturday) & 10am-5pm (Sunday)
Join hundreds of kites at Veterans Park, 1010 N. Lincoln Memorial Dr., Milwaukee.
www.giftofwings.com

Tuesday, September 13 – Business & Community Discussions on Transit Cuts, 4:30-5:30 or 6:30-7:45pm
Learn about transit cuts and proposals to restructure Milwaukee County Transit System. Find out how you can have a voice in the future of transit. Hosted by The Gateway to Milwaukee, South Suburban Chamber of Commerce, Transit Now, and Milwaukee Aging Consortium. At Cudahy Family Library, 3500 Library Drive, Cudahy. Accessible via Routes 15 and 55. For details, visit www.transitnow.org or call (262) 246-6151

Tuesday, September 13 – Friends of Mill Pond meeting, 6:30pm
At Grant Park Clubhouse (100 Hawthorne Av, South Milwaukee). 571-1191
www.southmilwaukee.org/millpond/

Thursday, September 15 – Grant Park Garden Club Wine & Beer Tasting, 5:30-8:30pm
Wine, beer, appetizers, silent auction and cash raffle to benefit South Milwaukee High School Scholarship, South Milwaukee Human Concerns and plantings at the Grant Park Clubhouse. $30 for members, $35 for non-members. At Sheridan's, 5133 S. Lake Dr, Cudahy. Call Kathy Krause at 315-1277 by September 12 for reservations.

Saturday, September 17 – Sunset Beach Walk, 5pm-9pm Partake in an illuminated Beach Walk. View the heavenly bodies with astronomer Greg Gonia. Enjoy s'mores from a campfire for purchase. Proceeds benefit restoration of the South Milwaukee Mill Pond and area. To arrive, follow Hawthorne Av. east to Grant Park Beach in South Milwaukee.
www.southmilwaukee.org/millpond/index.html

Saturday & Sunday, September 17 & 18 – Global Union, Noon-5pm
Presented by Alverno. Free international music at Humboldt Park, 3000 S. Howell Av, Milwaukee. http://alvernopresents.alverno.edu

Saturday, September 17 – Bay View Bash, 11am-10pm
Milwaukee's largest all-volunteer street festival on Kinnickinnic Av. from Potter to Clement.
www.bayviewbash.org

Saturday, September 17 – Washington Bark Dog Day, 11am-4pm
Training demos, lure coursing, Battle Against Dog Fighting talk, dog park etiquette talk, pet product vendors, contests, food, and fun! Entry fee of $5 per dog includes a doggie bag and supports ROMP and Friends of MADACC. At Washington Park, 45th & Washington Blvd, Milwaukee. 364-6488 http://washingtonbarkday.com

Sunday, September 25 – Preservation Hall Jazz Band concert, 7:30pm
Traditional New Orleans jazz visits the South Milwaukee Performing Arts Center, 901 15th Av., door 9, South Milwaukee. For tickets, visit www.southmilwaukeepac.org or contact 766-5049

Monday, September 26 – "Clear the Clutter" class, 1:30-3pm
Cost: $3. Get ready for the holiday season by de-cluttering your home. Please register in advance by calling the Kelly Senior Center at 481-9611.

Wednesday, September 28 – Cudahy Neighborhood Watch meeting, 6pm
At Cudahy Family Library, 3500 Library Dr., Cudahy. 414-324-5531

Thursday, September 29 – County Board Meeting, 9:30am
At Milwaukee County Courthouse, Room 200

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Ongoing:

South Milwaukee Downtown Market, Thursdays, 3-7pm
Including local farmers, restaurants, and artisans. Enjoy music and picnic tables. At 11th and Milwaukee Avenues, downtown South Milwaukee. Visit www.SMDowntownMarket.org for details and a concert schedule.