



Patricia Jursik *Update*

8th District Milwaukee County Supervisor Patricia Jursik
901 N. 9th Street, Courthouse RM 201, Milwaukee, WI 53233
Phone: 414-278-4231 Fax: 414-223-1380
E-mail: patricia.jursik@milwcnty.com
Website: <http://www.milwaukee.gov/Jursik>



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E-NEWS

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Finance and Audit

Judiciary, Safety and General Services

Personnel, Chair

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Committee on Long Range Transportation Planning

Economic Stimulus Task Force

Long Range Strategic Plan Steering Committee, Chair

RTA Task Force, Chair

Potential Loss of Transit System

The Governor's proposed budget would reduce State aid to local transit systems by 10% in 2012, which translates into a \$7 million cut to Milwaukee County bus funding. This would force Milwaukee County to cut "discretionary" services (buses) in order to continue funding State mandates like mental health services, the courts and corrections.

Additionally, by 2013, the State would support transit through general funds instead of segregated transportation funds. In the general fund, transit would compete with education, corrections and other services. Finally, the budget repair bill would freeze \$107 million in federal funding intended for transit, allowing this sum to be transferred to highway work.

These cuts would likely force Milwaukee County Transit system to eliminate all Freeway Flyer routes, four regular routes, late night and weekend service and most paratransit service to the suburbs, while increasing fares. Very soon, we may not have a transit system at all, thanks to consistent cuts, the shortsighted use of capital funds to cover operating expenses and the devastating blows that we anticipate from the State.

Our buses are vital to Milwaukee County's economy in getting people to jobs and commerce. Already, transit cuts resulted in [over 40,500 jobs becoming inaccessible](#) via transit in our four-county region from 2001 to 2007, according to the UWM Center for Economic Development. Thousands more jobs will lose access with the proposed cuts. As fuel prices continue to rise and we recover from recession, we need to preserve a viable transit option for our residents.

Facilities Plan Adopted

As part of the strategic planning process, the Board approved a plan to study consolidation of facilities in a resolution that I authored as chair of the Long-Range Strategic Plan Steering Committee. This plan calls for contracting with a real estate expert to study all county administrative facilities (not parks) and develop a plan to maximize efficiency, cut costs and sell excess county properties. The first phase would solicit bids to begin the creation of a strategic plan for facilities. Watch this newsletter for updates as the planning goes forward.



Strategic Planning:
Framework for Achieving
Fiscal Health



Hoan Bridge

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation commenced [deck and pier surface repairs](#) to the Hoan Bridge in March. The

contractor is scheduled to complete the project by the end of November, weather permitting. Two lanes will remain open while traffic is at peak levels. At the beginning of the project, the Carferry on-ramp will be closed. At the end of the project, the Carferry off-ramp will be closed.

South Shore Forum for Economic Development

South Shore leaders presented issues critical to our community and, subsequently, candidates for County Executive responded in a forum at the South Milwaukee



Performing Arts Center in March. Over 200 attendees submitted questions regarding the Airport, buses, commuter rail, the Hoan Bridge, metropolitan government, water and parks preservation and funding. [Here](#) is a recording of the forum.



College Avenue Improvements

Crews will commence reconstruction of East College Avenue in mid to late April, weather permitting. Here are details about the segments affected:

Pennsylvania to Packard Avenues

- Work will be performed while allowing access for traffic
- Completion expected in November

Howell to Pennsylvania Avenues

- Closed to through traffic during construction, although local businesses and residents will have access
- Major completion anticipated in mid-November 2011

Greene Park Improvements

Learn about proposed improvements in Greene Park. The Parks Chief of Planning and Development, Dave Burch, will deliver a presentation at the Wednesday, April 6, meeting of the St. Francis Common Council at 7 p.m. Mr. Burch will discuss basketball, tennis, baseball and wading pool amenities. We look forward to your feedback.

Oak Creek Lakefront & Bender Park

The City of Oak Creek presented plans for redevelopment of its Lakefront at a meeting and open house in March. I also heard comments about Bender Park, which is adjacent to the land under redevelopment. Residents expressed appreciation for Bender's wild areas which host many migratory species. They asked for an enhanced picnic area near the marina. There is a group interested in forming a Friends of Bender Park. If you have an interest, please email Rick Guerard at rjg2012@hotmail.com for details.

Downtown Lakefront Planning

My resolution for lakefront planning won unanimous approval from the County Board in March. The measure calls for the creation of a Long-Range Lakefront Planning Committee to develop a vision for the lakefront near downtown Milwaukee.

A number of individuals in this community have expressed a desire to recreate the lakefront near downtown Milwaukee. I agree that a broad vision that includes input from all stakeholders is necessary to develop the best possible path for moving forward. The creation of this new Committee establishes the proper process to develop

a long range plan and realize the agreed-upon vision.

The Committee will be chaired by Parks Director Sue Black and include one Milwaukee County Supervisor, the Milwaukee County Economic Development Director, the City of Milwaukee Commissioner of City of Development, a representative from the Milwaukee Common Council, and representatives from other stakeholders at the lakefront, including the War Memorial Center, Milwaukee Art Museum, Discovery World, Lakefront Development Advisory Commission, Betty Brinn Children's Museum, UWM School of Architecture and Urban Planning and Summerfest.

The Committee will provide an open forum for all stakeholders to create a common vision for the future of our lakefront. The final plan will be submitted to the County Board by December 2012 and include recommendations on the future of O'Donnell Park and the Downtown Transit Center.

Imminent Cuts to Libraries

As a trustee of the Milwaukee County Federated Library System (MCFLS), I have learned that shared services face a 10% reduction in State funding. The Federated Library System is a true example of services shared by the City of Milwaukee and all of its suburbs. A cost saving measure adopted by the MCFLS Board last year included privatizing the delivery service of shared materials. While we continue to look for cost savings, we may also see more cuts to MCFLS. We plan to work on a new member agreement for 2012.

Preserving Park Safety

Abandonment of animals (such as cats or trapped squirrels) in parks has become problematic. Domesticated animals struggle to fend for themselves and can upset the ecosystem. Abandoning animals violates [Wisconsin Statute 951.15](#).

It is also dangerous to hunt or trap in Milwaukee County parks. A stray bow could injure another park user. A trap could catch a dog or other critter, resulting in injury. Additionally, this is prohibited under [Milwaukee County Ordinance 47.05 \(1\)](#).

2011 DNR Licenses for Sale in County Clerk's Office

All 2010 Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) licenses expired on March 31. Buy your 2011 DNR Fishing and Hunting Licenses in the County Clerk's Office in Courthouse Room 105, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For more information, visit the [County Clerk website](#).

Community Calendar

Through Sunday, April 3 – Art in Bloom, Friday 10am-9pm, Saturday & Sunday 10am-5pm

A tribute to art and flowers, with floral creations by Milwaukee's top designers inspired by the Museum's masterworks along with presentations by celebrity floral designers and master gardeners.

Museum admission is required for all events, with some requiring additional ticket and reservation. At Milwaukee Art Museum, 700 N. Art Museum Dr, Milwaukee.

<http://www.mam.org/bloom/>



Saturday, April 2 – Family FREE Day at the Zoo, 9am-4:30pm

All visitors receive free admission. The parking fee remains in effect. At Milwaukee County Zoo, 10001 West Blue Mound Road, Milwaukee. 256-5466 milwaukeezoo.org



Saturday, April 2 – Green Living Festival, 10am-5pm

Find ways to save your green while helping people and our planet! Enjoy fair trade and green exhibitors; demos and talks from gardens to grease fuels; re-fashioned fashion show; food and beverages (for purchase); plus music, live animals, local artists and guests Mother Nature, Smokey the Bear and Woodsey the Owl. At Mitchell Park Domes, 524 S. Layton Blvd, Milwaukee, 257-5600. [Regular admission.](#)

Saturday, April 2 – South Shore Noon Lions Club Spaghetti Dinner, 4-6:30pm

Join for food, fun, and raffles to benefit Human/Project Concerns, Interfaiths and Lions Foundation. Meal tickets are available at door, \$8 adults, \$4 for children under 10. At Grobschmidt Senior Center, 2424 15th Avenue, South Milwaukee. Contact 768-8045.

Tuesday, February 5 – Spring General Election, 7am-8pm

Wednesday, April 6 – Knee & hip pain information session, 10-11am

What do you do to control your knee and hip pain? Come to this free program to learn what other alternatives are available for you. Sponsored by Columbia/St. Mary's. At Kelly Senior Center, 6100 S. Lake Drive, Cudahy, 481-9611.

Thursday, April 7 – Senior Center Friend: Help Kelly Exceed its Goal! Noon-1pm

If you were unable to make it to the original Friends of Kelly kick-off, now is your chance to find out what it's all about. Refreshments will be served. At Kelly Senior Center, 6100 S. Lake Drive, Cudahy, 481-9611.

Saturday, April 9 – Badgerland Striders South Shore Half-Marathon, 8:30am start, 7-8:10am registration

Start at South Shore Park Pavilion (2900 S. Shore Dr., Milwaukee). Follow the Oak Leaf through 5 County parks to Grant Park. Return along the same route. Pre-registration: \$10 for Striders, \$12 for non-members. Race day registration: \$15 for everyone. 614-0750. www.badgerlandstriders.org

Sunday, April 10 – St. Francis Association of Commerce Spaghetti Dinner, 11am-6pm

At St. Paul Church Hall, 1720 E. Norwich Av., Milwaukee. Tickets available at the door, \$6.50 for adults and \$3.50 for children.

Tuesday, April 12 – Friends of Mill Pond meeting, 6:30pm

At Marquette Manor (2409 10th Av, South Milwaukee). 571-1191

Wednesday, April 13 – Long term care information session, Noon-1pm

Sponsored by Prudential Insurance. Sandy will be here to answer your questions about what long term care is all about. Cousins ham and cheese sandwiches, soda and cookies will be provided. One lucky person will win a \$25 gift card for Walgreens. Preregistration required at 481-9611. At Kelly Senior Center, 6100 S. Lake Drive, Cudahy, 481-9611.

Thursday, April 14 – Computer Safety Tips, 10-11am

A representative from the Milwaukee County Sheriff's Department will explain the pitfalls of your computer experience and how to avoid them. At Kelly Senior Center, 6100 S. Lake Drive, Cudahy, 481-9611.

Thursday, April 14 – Grant Park "Park Watch" meeting, 6:30pm

At Grant Park Clubhouse, 100 Hawthorne Av, South Milwaukee. 764-7262 www.fogp.org

Thursday, April 14 – Friends of Grant Park meeting, 7pm

At Grant Park Clubhouse, 100 Hawthorne Av, South Milwaukee. 764-0612 www.fogp.org

Saturday, April 16 – City of St. Francis Community Cleanup

Contact Debbie at bikingxfour@tds.net for details.

Saturday, April 16 – FREE Fishing Clinics for Kids, 9a-3p (Hourly, with last clinic at 2pm)

Learn about technique, equipment, knots, safety, and fish ID at this event for youth 15 and younger. An adult must accompany children under 6. Equipment will be available, but participants should bring their own rod and reel if possible. Groups of 20+ must pre-register with the DNR at 263-8614.

Milwaukee County Parks, Milwaukee County House of Correction Fish Hatchery, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and the Wisconsin Council of Sport Fishing Organizations sponsor this clinic and provide all needed equipment. Join the fun at the following locations:

Oak Creek Parkway (at the Mill Pond, Oak Creek Parkway & Mill Road, South Milwaukee)
Hosted by Friends of Mill Pond & Oak Creek Watercourse

Sheridan Park (4800 Lake Dr., Cudahy)
Hosted by Lakeridge Boat Club and South Milwaukee 1400 Fishing & Hunting Club

Humboldt Park (3000 S. Howell Av, Milwaukee)
Hosted by Lunkers Unlimited

Find **additional** locations [here](#).

Thursday, April 21 – County Board Meeting, 9:30am

At Milwaukee County Courthouse, Room 200

Wednesday, April 27 – Cudahy Neighborhood Watch meeting, 6pm

At Cudahy Family Library, 3500 Library Dr., Cudahy. 414-324-5531

Saturday, April 30 –Watercourse Cleanup, 8am-Noon

Bring tall boots if you have them. Friends of Mill Pond and Oak Creek Watercourse Inc. will provide safety vests, bags, water, and vinyl gloves. Meet at Grant Park Beach parking lot (at the far east end of Hawthorne Av, South Milwaukee). The cleanup will target the area from the beach to N. Chicago Av.

Saturday, April 30 – Weed Out, 9-11am

Pull invasive garlic mustard to protect plant diversity in Grant Park! Meet at the tennis courts parking lot (Area 1) in Grant Park. Don Lawson 764-0612

Saturday, April 30 – Go Green with Kelly Center Rummage and Recycling Fundraiser, 8am-2pm

Help Kelly Senior Center by contributing used household metals for recycling at Kelly's south parking lot. Stay for a huge rummage sale and purchase refreshments or baked goods. Proceeds benefit programming at Kelly. For details or to rent a table for \$14 at the rummage, contact 481-9611 or visit Kelly Senior Center, 6100 S. Lake Drive, Cudahy.

Saturday, April 30 – Cudahy Earth Day/Arbor Day, 9am-Noon

A city wide cleanup will take place in the morning with volunteers assembling at Cudahy city hall at noon for an Arbor day tree planting ceremony. The City will be planting a tree honoring former Cudahy School Board President and former Cudahy Mayor Raymond Glowacki for his service to our community. Donated refreshments will be served and tree seedlings will be distributed to clean up volunteers. To volunteer, please contact Joel Puczyłowski at 627-8117 or puczyłowski@yahoo.com

Saturday, April 30 – South Milwaukee Earth Day, 9-Noon

Pick up trash bags at any of four locations (South Milwaukee City Hall, southwest corner of 16th & Rawson Av, southwest corner of Oak Creek Parkway & N. Chicago Av, or at the South Milwaukee Fire Department), help clean up the community and enjoy a volunteer lunch afterwards. Please call the City Clerk at 762-2222 for details and to confirm your participation.