

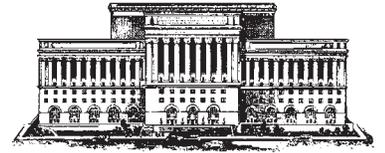


MILWAUKEE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

*Milwaukee County*

**John F. Weishan, Jr.**

Supervisor, 16th District



Dear Constituents,

As 2009 comes to a close, I hope you and your family are doing well and looking forward to 2010. Over the last year, our nation and state have seen unprecedented economic challenges. Major changes to the funding and delivery of government services are being proposed. Locally, Milwaukee County is no different, and will see many changes in 2010.

Throughout the 2010 budget process, I worked hard to protect vital services needed by the citizens of the district, while at the same time taking into account our ability to pay for those services. I worked with my colleagues to defeat the wheel tax and to promote the responsible use of our tax dollars. All times are tough times when working on a budget. My priorities during the 2010 budget ensure that critical social services like mental health care stay intact. The most vulnerable citizens among us will still receive help.

The use of over \$120 million of federal stimulus funds proposed by County Executive Walker will lead to greater capital spending in 2010. Projects in the district like new playground equipment at McCarty Park along with athletic fields and tennis court restorations at Zablocki Park will be completed sooner than expected.

For many years now we have endured cuts to our Park system and Transit system. Through the hard work of the Milwaukee County Transit System (MCTS) and its employees, some of the cuts in funding have been absorbed. But now it has been made clear through route eliminations and fare increases that the system is at a crisis point. A similar situation exists in our Park system where frontline workers have stepped up to meet the challenges of dwindling resources. Senior staff have recommitted themselves to providing quality recreational management, but long-term funding issues persist.

As the funding crisis for each continues, solutions have been proposed and voted on by the citizens of Milwaukee County. In November 2008, voters favored a 1% countywide sales tax to support Parks, Recreation, Culture, Transit and Emergency Medical Services along with Property Tax Relief. So far, the State Legislature has failed to enact the wishes of Milwaukee County voters.

The 2010 Milwaukee County budget depends heavily on an improving economy and major wage and benefits concession from county employees. It is likely that economic conditions will only improve modestly and that only limited concessions will be negotiated. As a result, there will be a need for major reductions in County services.

I have planned three (3) town hall meetings for spring (listed below) to address any corrective action plans.

**March 27, 2010**

Location: West Allis Public Library

Time: 3:00pm to 5:00pm

7421 W. National Avenue ▪ West Allis, WI. 53214

**April 7, 2010**

Location: Jackson Park Boat House

Time: 6:00pm to 8:00pm

4200 W. Cleveland Avenue ▪ Milwaukee, WI. 53215

**April 14, 2010**

Location: Alcott Park Pavilion

Time: 6:00pm to 8:00pm

3751 S. 97th Street ▪ Milwaukee, WI. 53228

The 2010 budget process was not the end of the discussion on Milwaukee County's finances and changes will be made throughout the year to maintain a balanced budget.

I believe the challenges facing Milwaukee County's future are an opportunity to reinvent County Government and develop better service models that deliver a higher quality of life in Milwaukee County for all our citizens.

Best Regards



John F. Weishan, Jr.  
Milwaukee County Supervisor, 16th District