



*Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors  
Supervisor John Weishan, Jr.,  
District 16*

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**SUPERVISOR WEISHAN CALLS OUT COUNTY EXECUTIVE ON  
SELLING OUT TAXPAYERS**

**Weishan Calls Giving Away County Assets Irresponsible**

Supervisor John F. Weishan, Jr. issued the following statement today on the proposed funding of a new downtown arena:

“County Executive Chris Abele, the Milwaukee Bucks owners, and state legislators have submitted a proposal for a new arena, and it is being financed on the backs of our working class community.

“Milwaukee area business leaders expect Milwaukee County, 21.6 percent of which is below the poverty level, to pay for an arena that is primarily used by the wealthy of our area. The proposal is immoral and irresponsible.

“The arena financing plan would require the County to pay \$80 million over 20 years through the increased collection of ‘bad debt.’ If unable to collect the bad debt, the County’s shared revenue would be cut leading to raised taxes or drastic cuts in services. This, along with the transfer, or what most people would consider the theft of, the Marcus Center of the Performing Arts, owned by the citizens of Milwaukee County, to the new Wisconsin Center District is outrageous.

“The taxpayers of Milwaukee County do not benefit from financing a new arena. Collecting on all of Milwaukee County’s ‘bad debt’ is an unrealistic task and a thoughtless attempt at a new revenue stream. Milwaukee County will lose its shared revenue, meaning further cuts for county programs. Once again, the County Executive targets the poor, increasing the hardship the less fortunate face in order to further enrich his wealthy friends.”

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