



# *Milwaukee County*

Supervisor John F. Weishan, Jr., 16<sup>th</sup> District

Supervisor Michael Mayo, Sr., 7<sup>th</sup> District

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## **SUPERVISORS SUPPORT EQUITABLE AGREEMENT FOR WAR MEMORIAL CENTER AND MILWAUKEE ART MUSEUM**

**Milwaukee, WI** – A coalition of Milwaukee County Supervisors are weighing in on proposed changes to the relationship between the War Memorial Center and the Milwaukee Art Museum.

“The veterans I’ve talked to do not want to be blindsided by surprise attacks. The War Memorial used to have a good relationship with the Milwaukee Art Museum. This recent turn of events has taken a lot of veterans by surprise,” said Supervisor Mayo, Vice-Chair of the War Memorial Board. “We must look beyond these disagreements, however, and work with the War Memorial and the Art Museum to reach an agreement that is fair and equitable for all parties.”

“Residents may not be aware that the Art Museum doesn’t pay Milwaukee County for the use of the War Memorial Center, or that the County provides a \$200,000 cash subsidy to the Milwaukee Art Museum every year with no strings attached. On top of that, the County also pays all of the utility bills for the permanent galleries and office areas housed in the War Memorial Center,” Supervisor Weishan said. “If the Milwaukee Art Museum would simply start paying its utility bills, the County could instead invest in the building to update the crumbling infrastructure.”

“When you add up all of the County’s support to the Art Museum over the last 15 years, including the parking revenue we lost when the Calatrava addition was built, the discounted parking for Museum employees, and the equipment/infrastructure upgrades we funded, Milwaukee County has provided several millions of dollars in revenue opportunities for the Milwaukee Art Museum,” Supervisor Weishan added.

“Our top priority for the War Memorial is to continue the mission of honoring the dead by serving the living,” Supervisor Mayo added. “Although I am against this hostile invasion of the War Memorial, we do have an opportunity to make this a win-win for the residents of Milwaukee County.”

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