



MILWAUKEE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Supervisor Shawn Rolland - District 6

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Thursday, September 24, 2026

Contact: Eddie Cullen 414-793-0347

Supervisor Rolland Announces Approval of \$45.8 Million Cost-Reduction Amendment to IJCC Project

MILWAUKEE – Milwaukee County Supervisor Shawn Rolland announced today that a proposed amendment cosponsored by Supervisor Steve F. Taylor and Supervisor Sky Z. Capriolo to reduce the cost of the Investing in Justice: Courthouse Complex (IJCC) project by \$45,775,000 was approved during a special joint meeting of the Milwaukee County Board's Committee on Community, Environment and Economic Development and Committee on Finance.

The amendment removes a proposed glass east entryway from the scope of the Courthouse Complex project, reducing the proposed project cost while maintaining the broader investment in modernizing Milwaukee County's courthouse facilities. The current IJCC proposal has a total project scope of up to \$857.948 million.

"I want to thank Director Hertzberg, Chief Judge Ashley, Director Lucas and their teams for the time, thought and willingness to listen throughout this process, and kudos to everyone who took the time to testify today, as well as my fellow Supervisors for their smart questions.

"I've been talking with constituents about this project for several months, sending out emails, writing about it and asking people what they think. I've been hearing two messages loud and clear: We have to make the courthouse complex better, faster, safer and more accessible for everyone. And we have to be fiscally responsible and cut the extras at a time when affordability means everything to people.

"The building is slowing our criminal justice system down. It puts families and people accused of violent crimes on a collision course in our hallways. And it's a completely unacceptable place for juries to deliberate, especially for people with disabilities.

"At the same time, we have to keep costs down. That's why I pushed to reduce the cost of the Courthouse Complex proposal by \$45,775,000 by removing the proposed glass east entryway. Today, our focus should be on building a better courthouse, not a more expensive front door. In my view, this is a nice-to-have amenity, not a need-to-have priority like the rest of the project.

"Cutting \$45 million from an \$857 million project might seem like a drop in the bucket to some. But we spent years debating whether to spend \$30 million to save the Domes. Our county's entire capital budget in a typical year is about \$70 million. Forty-five million dollars is a lot of money we can prevent taxpayers from paying.

"We need a courthouse that serves justice, protects safety and works for everyone. We don't need a \$45 million glass entryway. This amendment keeps our focus where it belongs."

The amendment also requires County Board approval for future funding adjustments, strengthening Board oversight of the project as it moves forward.

"On a project this significant, it's critical that the County Board and the community are brought along at every step of the way," Rolland said.

The Investing in Justice: Courthouse Complex project is intended to address the County's aging courthouse facilities and improve the spaces used by the courts, justice system, jurors, employees, and members of the public. The project remains under consideration by the County Board.

###