



Tom Barrett
Mayor, City of Milwaukee

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Mayor Tom Barrett issued the following statement regarding today's vote by the UW Board of Regents regarding the location of the School of Public Health:

“I wish to thank the University of Wisconsin Board of Regents for designating downtown Milwaukee’s Brewery Development as the official site of the new UWM School of Public Health. I also extend my thanks to the leadership team at UWM for their commitment to our City and our residents.

“In 2005, I first went to the Board of Regents and requested that Milwaukee be home to the state’s only certified School of Public Health. Since that time, a strong partnership between the City of Milwaukee, UWM, community health professionals and Joe Zilber emerged. Today’s announcement is a testament to that partnership and a gratifying acknowledgement to Joe Zilber’s most gracious commitment.

“As we have seen at other universities, research dollars drive economic development. Having a first-class facility in a dynamic urban location will serve as an asset in faculty recruitment and securing research funding. It will also serve to bring faculty and students closer to populations that they serve. In fact, training the next generation of public health workers is best done near communities that face public health challenges. The downtown location will also facilitate closer partnerships with the City of Milwaukee Health Department, community health centers, local hospitals and other colleges and universities.

“There is much work to be done. Next week, the State Building must approve the Regent’s action and UWM and the City Health Department must continue their joint efforts to insure that the Milwaukee School of Public Health becomes the collaborative center of research and public health service innovation that we envisioned five years ago.

“I am excited about the future of Milwaukee’s School of Public Health and look forward to strengthening our Public Health Partnerships.”