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- ZONING, NEIGHBORHOODS & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

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- COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
- PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

COMMISSIONER

- MILWAUKEE REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (RACM)

CHAIR

- UNITY CAUCUS



WILLIE C. WADE
ALDERMAN, 7TH DISTRICT

COMMITTEE MEMBER

- ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE TASK FORCE (SEWRPC)

BOARD MEMBER

- LOCAL INITIATIVES SUPPORT CORP. (LISC) (CREDIT COMMITTEE AND BOARD MEMBER)
- MILWAUKEE SURVIVE ALIVE FOUNDATION
- WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD
- FRESH COAST BASKETBALL CLASSIC
- MILWAUKEE METROPOLITAN SEWERAGE DISTRICT (MMSD)
- MARY RYAN BOYS & GIRLS CLUB (ADVISORY BOARD)

August 23, 2010

Dear 7th District Resident,

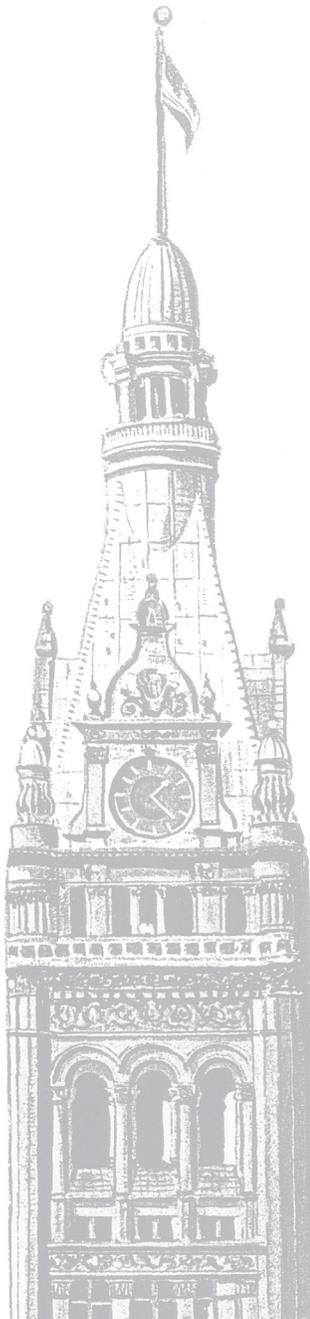
Because of the volume of contacts I received to my office (2,218) regarding the flood it was impossible to call each of you back in a timely manner. That is why I am sending this information to you by email and letter.

Thank you for contacting me about the recent flood damage to your home. I understand this is a very difficult time, particularly as some of you have experienced flooding repeatedly in the last three years. Many of us in the 7th District have been affected by the torrential downpours and although it is difficult to find anything positive in this situation, I am proud of the way neighbors have helped each other clear storm drains, push cars out of standing water, clean up damaged property and helped raise money for the Red Cross.

I assure you that I am doing everything I can, not only to make your clean up easier, but also to make improvements in our sewage and drainage system to find out how we can fix these problems as we move forward. To assist with your clean up, the city crews will pick up and dispose of water damaged items. City sanitation workers will be working overtime doing pick ups.

Once you have reported your damage to 286-CITY (2489), city crews will be working to assess the cause of your backup. Although they will not directly assist with your clean up, their investigations will serve two purposes: First, it will document your damage to assist with future claims against either the City of Milwaukee, MMSD or for possible relief aid with FEMA. Second, it will provide the City and MMSD with valuable information about where and how damage occurred, thus allowing engineers to analyze the overall system for future design improvements.

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As for the structural issues that need to be analyzed, I have directed the City Engineer and the Department of Public Works to provide me with a report of all the backups in my district. If you know of any neighbors who have not reported their damages, please encourage them to do so by calling 286-CITY (2489). This information will be critical to our internal investigation as it will help identify areas in need of restructuring, thus helping the city make smarter investments in our sewer and drainage systems.

FEMA was in Milwaukee on Wednesday, July 28 and I was out in the city with them as they conducted their assessment process. After gathering this data, on August 11, 2010, FEMA concluded that the State of Wisconsin would receive federal assistance for public damaged infrastructure, but would not receive help for damages to private property for the storm on July 22, 2010. The state is currently appealing FEMA's denial decision on private property assistance.

The July 22, 2010 rainfall was well beyond anything our system was ever designed for; close to 8 inches of rain fell (8.9 in the 7th district) in less than 3 hours and that was an unprecedented volume and velocity of precipitation. I appreciate your patience and your courage in helping all of us get through a very stressful and dangerous storm. I am sending you as much information as I have to keep you informed.

Those who received parking citations between 4 p.m. Thursday, July 22 and 6 a.m. Sunday, July 25 will have them voided by order of the Mayor.

If you are considering filing a claim against the city, the instructions for doing so can be found on the city's website at www.milwaukee.gov/cityclerk. Also, on my webpage at www.milwaukee.gov/district7 there is information on how you can deduct the loss or partial loss of your home, household goods, and motor vehicles from disaster damages on your individual federal income tax return. Here is a link to the IRS Disaster Assistance document that details the process: www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p2194.pdf.

Please do not hesitate to continue contacting me with any further questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Willie C. Wade". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a long horizontal stroke.

Willie C. Wade
Alderman, 7th District
414-286-3764

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Alderman Wade's July 22nd 2010 – Storm Update

- **July 27th** – Meeting with Commissioner Wallace White to discuss steps MMSD could take regarding the flooding issues
- **July 28th** – A.M. Meeting with FEMA in Franklin, WI
- **July 28th** – P.M. touring city with FEMA to assess damage
- **August 4th** – meeting with residents at Center Street library to discuss flooding and other city services issues
- **August 16th** – Eric Von radio show, giving an update on flood information
- **August 17th** – Meeting at DPW with representatives from MMSD, DPW, City Engineers, City Attorney's, FEMA representative from Congresswoman Gwen Moore's office, State Representative Barbara Toles, Alderwoman Milele Cogg, Alderman Hamilton, MMSD Executive Director Kevin Shafer, MMSD Vice Chair Commissioner Wallace White, DPW Director of Operations Preston Cole:

Agenda items discussed

1. Primary concern is sewer and water back up on private property. What do we need to do to fix this?
 2. How much will it cost?
 3. How will or can this be funded?
 4. Are there any devices that property owners can get that will stop water/sewer from backing up into their homes? If so, what would be the cost to constituents?
- **August 19th** – Neighborhood meeting at DPW to discuss flood concerns
 - **August 20th** – Began work on legislation on how the city could address lateral repair issues on private property
 - **August 23rd** – MMSD board meeting – MMSD board of commissioners approved a \$26,000,000 budget item to address private and public infrastructure issues related to flooding
 - **August 23rd - 29th** – In district gathering information regarding flood issues and debris removal with constituents
 - **I will continue to meet with block clubs and residents in smaller groups on issues concerning flooding in the district.**