
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



FOR INFORMATION CALL

October 31, 2011

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Council Members See Opportunity for Much Needed Infrastructure Work

Alderman Joe Davis, Sr. and Alderman Robert J. Bauman of the Milwaukee Common Council will hold a news conference Tuesday to discuss provisions of the Rebuild America Jobs Act, which could bring millions of dollars to the city for improvements to infrastructure and transportation systems.

The news conference will begin at 11 a.m. Tuesday (November 1) in the first floor rotunda at City Hall, 200 E. Wells St.

Alderman Davis, who last week attended a White House briefing about the Jobs Act that included remarks from President Obama, said city projects will be submitted for funding under the Jobs Act, and funding awards will be based on merit alone.

“Milwaukee and other cities will apply directly for infrastructure funding – it won’t be allocated to the state and then be doled out to local governments like in the past,” said Alderman Davis, chair of the National League of Cities (NLC) International Council.

“This is about getting Milwaukee working again on valuable and much needed infrastructure work, and without adding a dime to the deficit,” Alderman Davis said.

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Rebuild America Jobs Act/ADD ONE

Alderman Bauman, chair of the Public Works Committee, has championed increased capital spending investments in city infrastructure, including introducing a budget amendment to significantly increase 2012 capital spending to repair streets, sidewalks and alleys, and to preserve vacant and abandoned foreclosed homes.

“We have an opportunity to make significant investments that will improve our infrastructure and put dollars into the local economy and put local contractors and workers back on job sites,” Alderman Bauman said. “And the price of infrastructure investments now is miniscule compared to the price that could be paid down the road for inaction.”

The Rebuild America Jobs Act includes the following pieces:

- **National Infrastructure Bank** – \$10 billion to establish an independent, professionally-managed institution that provides credit support to qualified infrastructure projects of regional and national significance, making transparent merit-based investment decisions based in part on the infrastructure projects’ ability to repay.
- **Transportation Infrastructure Grants and Financing** – \$50 billion of immediate investments in transportation infrastructure, including \$27 billion for highway systems, \$9 billion for transit systems, and \$2 billion for airport improvement grants. The highway and transit funds will benefit localities throughout the country; a significant percentage of highway funds will be programmed directly at the local level and most transit funds will be allocated to local-level transit authorities. Similarly, the competitive airport improvement grants will be primarily allocated to local airports. TIGER and TIFIA funds will be awarded on a competitive basis to eligible entities, including local governments. Eligible projects will include highways, public transportation, rail and port infrastructure.

Please visit www.WhiteHouse.gov/JobsNow for additional information on the Jobs Act.