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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOR INFORMATION CALL

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December 6, 2011

Ald. Robert Bauman  
(414) 286-2221

## Demand for Docking Spots Demands Rules, Alderman Says

The Common Council's **Public Works Committee** will discuss an ordinance Wednesday (December 7) that would prohibit the securing, in one place, of any boat, vessel or watercraft to any private or city-owned or controlled dock or dockwall in the navigable waters of the city for more than 24 hours.

**Alderman Robert J. Bauman**, chair of the Public Works Committee and the sponsor of the proposed legislation, said the revitalization of downtown Milwaukee and the steady expansions of the RiverWalk system have created a welcome problem: hundreds of pleasure crafts using the Milwaukee River and patronizing the many food and beverage establishments located along the river. In addition, he said many new downtown residents are taking advantage of river docks to moor their boats near their downtown homes.

“Now, to preserve the fair use of the river by all boat owners, we need to enact some rules that protect the interests of boat owners who have invested in the long term rental of boat docks while maintaining fair access to public boat dock facilities,” Alderman Bauman said.

The ordinance (**file #111125**) covers city-owned docks and dockwalls and also makes it illegal for any boat, vessel or other watercraft to be secured or docked to any privately-owned dock or dockwall located in any of the navigable waters of the city without the permission of the owner of the dock or dockwall.

-More-

## **Docking Ordinance/ADD ONE**

However, the ordinance would specifically exempt any dock or dockwall used for commercial shipping under the control of the Board of Harbor Commissioners and located on Jones Island, the Kinnickinnic River, the mooring basin or any other location south of the Hoan Bridge.

The ordinance – if approved as is – would authorize the Milwaukee Police Department to cite boat/vessel/watercraft owners or operators up to \$500 per day per violation.

**The committee will meet at 9 a.m. Wednesday in room 301-B at City Hall, 200 E. Wells St.**