



Alderman Joe Dudzik

11th District

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Dear Constituents,

It's fall in the City of Milwaukee and with the change in color and temperate weather also comes the annual struggle to budget the city's finances to meet the very important service needs we provide while balancing what residents pay for such services. This year's budget was finalized on November 4, and the discussions included talk of city employees' new contributions to health care and the state's new laws regarding collective bargaining.

Financing our city operations isn't the only news in the 11th District, however and in this newsletter, you'll be reminded of how our neighbors are working hard to sustain property values and a strong sense of community in our area. You'll also learn the results of the redistricting process and what that might mean for your polling location beginning with the April 2012 Spring Election.

And, as always, as we approach the winter season Milwaukee is famous for, you'll see reminders about snow services and plowing. As usual, all this information is also available on my website, www.milwaukee.gov/district11 and I welcome your calls or emails to my office with questions or concerns.

Enjoy our beautiful Midwestern fall and winter seasons!

Joe Dudzik
Alderman, 11th District



Poll Locations and Election Census Changes

The 2010 Census process has resulted in the redistricting of our city. Part of that process also included renumbering our voting wards.

To learn your new voting ward number and location, please turn to the Election Commission at www.milwaukee.gov/elections or call **286-3491**. Though your representation may not have changed through the process, your voting ward has been renumbered. As always, you can also call my office, **286-3768** with questions as well.

City/County Christmas Tree Coming from the 11th District - Again

In what has become a fairly regular fall tradition in Milwaukee, a Department of Public Works Forestry crew harvested the 98th City/County Christmas Tree – a gorgeous blue spruce tree standing more than 35 feet tall – at the home of the Sullivan family, 6349 W. Euclid Ave. This is the fifth such tree donated by an 11th District property owner in the last 10 years.

“This is a tremendous source of pride for me and for the residents of the 11th District,” said Alderman Dudzik. “It is reflective of how well residents in the 11th District maintain their yards, their gardens, and their trees, and it’s also indicative of their generosity and spirit that they’re willing to donate to the whole community something they’ve enjoyed and nurtured for many years,” he said.

The annual tree lighting ceremony was held on Thursday, November 17 at Red Arrow Park, located on N. Water St. across from City Hall.

El Rey Opens in District 11

Alderman Joe Dudzik joined Maria Monreal-Cameron (President and CEO of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Wisconsin), owners Olivia and Ernesto Villarreal and manager Nelson Lang at the grand opening celebration of the new El Rey grocery store at 5200 W. Oklahoma Ave., the previous location of a Sentry Foods store.

El Rey has been a Milwaukee tradition for more than 30 years, and this celebration marks the opening of its 5th location in the city. The new El Rey will offer a wide variety of Hispanic, Serbian and Polish products, a deli, bakery and other products and services familiar to former Sentry patrons.



Photo Credit: Skip Meucci

Balancing Services Amid Cuts: The 2012-13 City of Milwaukee Budget

The 2012 amended city budget approved by the Milwaukee Common Council essentially holds property taxes steady for city property owners.

The 2012 tax levy approved by the Common Council is \$248.008 million, or up 0.5% from 2011's \$246.703 million levy, and more than \$261,000 less than the Mayor's proposed 2012 budget levy.

The 2012 tax levy means the owner of an average city home valued at \$123,000 will see a \$12 increase in the city portion of the tax bill.

The 2012 adopted budget meets the state's directives for local government budgets and again reflects the Council's affirmation of residents' wishes for lower taxes and flat spending.

The budget also reflects an important shift to capital projects and infrastructure work in the community. "Channeling funds into infrastructure is a win-win," Alderman Dudzik said. "Not only does it improve the roads, sidewalks and alley ways in our community for the benefit of residents, but it also creates local jobs to do the work."

The Council also unanimously approved changes in the Office of the Treasurer that scaled back the pay of the Treasurer effective with the new term in 2012, and which included eliminating the position of special deputy city treasurer. The move will save more than \$108,000 in eight months' time, with additional savings expected.

Alderman Dudzik also voted to eliminate one of the employee furlough days for 2012, a move that passed the Council, but is likely to be vetoed by Mayor Barrett, leaving four furlough days on the calendar for 2012.

The Council unanimously approved an amendment that asks for a city study of a new fire suppression system that ultimately could save thousands of dollars in truck and equipment purchases. The proposed new ultra-high pressure fire suppression systems can be mounted on pickup trucks equipped with emergency medical technician kits. The study is due March 1, 2012 and will determine the feasibility of the move, which could provide significant savings in fuel and greatly reduce water damage to homes and businesses.



"The approved budget came in under the state's budget constraints, and hopefully city services won't be drastically compromised," Alderman Dudzik said.

Trolley Folly: Streetcar Money Should be Used for Buses



In October Alderman Dudzik was joined by Alderman Bob Donovan, Milwaukee County Supervisor Mark Borkowski and supporters during a news conference to express support for using millions of dollars in transit funding for Milwaukee County Transit System buses instead of the downtown streetcar project.

Alderman Joe Dudzik, Alderman Bob Donovan, and Milwaukee County Supervisor Mark Borkowski sent a letter in October to Milwaukee's congressional delegation, asking them to seek federal approval to use tens of millions of dollars currently slated to pay for the downtown streetcar to help fund the beleaguered Milwaukee County Transit System.

Alderman Dudzik said he does not believe the rosy economic development picture painted by streetcar proponents. He said the money would be better spent on restoring and bolstering bus routes and service in Milwaukee and surrounding municipalities, and he said he and Alderman Donovan and Supervisor Borkowski are pushing for a spring referendum on the issue "to let the people decide."

"Our citizens ride the bus to get to and from jobs, and that was hammered home in an editorial "Transit needed for jobs" which appeared (Sept. 27) in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel," he said. "In my mind, we need to restore some common sense to local government and use the money wisely to help us keep our bus system – a decades-old proven transit option – up and running for the thousands who depend on it to get to jobs each and every day."

Alderman Dudzik added, "To attempt tackling this streetcar project during an unprecedented economic crisis being felt in Milwaukee and across this nation is insanity."

IRS Warns of 'Free Money' Scam

The IRS is warning residents to be alert to a scam hitting the Milwaukee area. The scam encourages people to file tax returns, for a fee, to get a refund, rebate or stimulus check based on withholding from Social Security benefits. But the claim is often based on inaccurate or false information.

People are being victimized by paying the scammer a fee to prepare the returns, only to find out their claims are rejected or they have to return the money to the IRS, plus potential penalties and interest. The scam targets seniors and low income individuals. The IRS reminds taxpayers that if you can't verify all the information on a tax return, don't sign it.

For more information on scams visit: www.IRS.gov



Fall and Winter Public Works in Milwaukee

We can't predict the future, but here in Milwaukee, it is a safe bet there will be snow in winter. With the snow and cold come rules related to plowing, shoveling and even changes in our garbage pick up patterns. The information below helps you keep track of schedules and rules about our Department of Public Works in winter and over the holidays.

Snow Plowing

When a major storm occurs, it can take from 18 to 24 hours to plow all streets, depending on the severity of the storm. Sometimes plows must make four to six passes down a street to clear it curb to curb.

The city tries to do this at one time so residents can shovel out driveways and sidewalks. It is best to wait, if possible, until we've plowed your street before

shoveling out your driveway approach. It is also helpful if you pile the snow to the right side of your driveway as you face the street. This will minimize the amount of snow pushed back into the driveway approach by a plow.

Residents have 24 hours after the snow stops falling to clear snow from sidewalks. Violations reported to DPW will be inspected and incur an initial inspection fee of \$25. If the snow is not cleared after 24 hours, the city will clear it and put the costs along with a \$45 - \$90 administrative fee on the property tax bill.

Sidewalk Clearing for Older Citizens and Disabled Persons

Residents who own single family homes who are physically unable to clear the sidewalk in front of their home may apply to Sanitation for assistance with clearing the walk after a snowstorm exceeding 4 inches.

Holiday Garbage Collection Schedule and Christmas Tree Disposal

Want to know when the next garbage pick-up day will occur? Try going to DPW's website at www.milwaukee.gov/mpw and using the interactive scheduler. Remember to place holiday wrapping paper, boxes, etc. in your recycling cart or in a bag next to the recycling cart.

Want to mulch that Christmas tree? Residents in the City of Milwaukee, have two options for Christmas tree disposal:

- For collection by the Sanitation Crew, place your tree where the garbage is collected. Residents whose garbage is picked up in the alley should place their Christmas tree in the alley near the garbage cart. Residents without an alley, whose garbage cart is in their backyard, should place their tree at the curb.
- Or remove all decorations and take your tree to a Self-Help Center where it will be recycled.

Christmas trees are not considered yard waste under the State Recycling Law and may be disposed of in landfills. Therefore, trees collected with your garbage are landfilled.

Police Non-Emergency Options

If there's a police emergency and you need immediate assistance, we all know to call 911. But the Milwaukee Police Department also provides service through a non-emergency line, 933-4444. If you know you need a squad for a non-emergency situation, press option 9 right away.

The menu you hear when you call the non-emergency line offers a number of options.

The options include:

- If you are calling FOR OVERNIGHT PARKING PERMISSION, to report a parking trouble or an abandoned auto, please press 1
- If you wish to speak with someone at a district station and do not need a police response, please press 2
- For Identity Theft information, press 3
- To see if your vehicle may have been towed before you report it stolen, press 4
- For information on open records request, accident reports, or police incident reports, press 5
- For information on an individual that may have been arrested, press 6
- For the Violations Bureau, press 7
- For a drug dealing complaint that is NOT in progress, press 8
- If you need a police squad to respond to a non-emergency situation, please press 9
- Press 0 to repeat the menu, or stay on the line to speak with an operator.

"If residents are aware that the directory can provide such specific responses to service requests and direct their call to those extensions, the operators are freed up to handle other necessary requests and services," Alderman Dudzik said.

If you would like someone from Technical Communications to visit your block watch, contact my office and we can work with the MPD to arrange it.



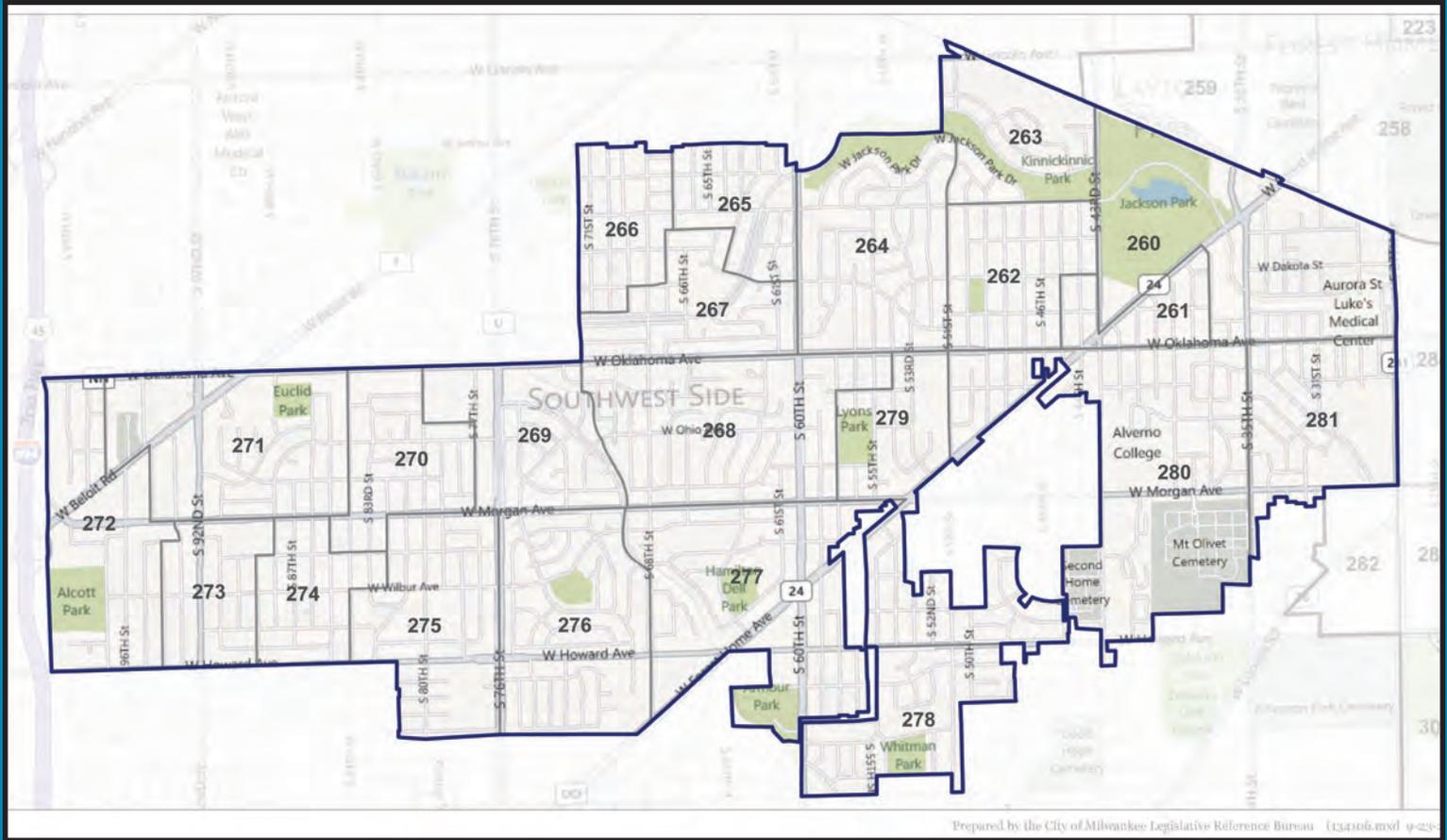
Support Your Local Library!

As you may know, unfortunately libraries are continuously struggling to stay open, but there are some things you can do to support your local library.

- Get a library card
- Return books on time
- Pay fines
- Hold community meetings there
- Patronize
- Participate in programming
- Encourage others to use the library

Find out more at: www.mpl.org

11th District Redistricting Changes



As a result of the 2010 Census, a number of things have changed in the 11th District. Some district boundaries have shifted to represent population changes. Additionally, the Election Commission has renumbered all voting wards.

To find your voting ward and your polling location, please turn to www.milwaukee.gov/elections or call the Election Commission at **286-3491**. You can also call my office for more information at **286-3768**.

Pet Waste – Leash Laws



Let's face it, there are few experiences as aromatically unpleasant as stepping on dog poop. And, if a lazy or uncaring dog owner leaves it on your grass or in a park area, then it's no accident.

But not only is it unsightly, pet waste left on the lawn or next to the sidewalk washes into storm drains which carries it directly into our rivers and Lake Michigan.

Please, on behalf of your neighbors, double-bag pet waste in plastic bags. Seal the bags and then put them in your green garbage cart. If you have any questions, call 286-CITY (2489).

Alderman Dudzik would also like to remind residents that city law prohibits an owner from permitting an animal to be at large. In other words, dogs must be leashed at all times except when they are confined in a fenced yard. Cat owners must also keep cats confined or on a leash, as it is illegal to let cats be at large.

Concealed Carry Law

The State of Wisconsin has passed legislation allowing for the legal carrying concealed firearms and weapons. Senate Bill 93 allows for the possession of concealed weapons with some restrictions. First and foremost, those who wish to carry and conceal weapons must obtain a permit to do so and without a permit, may be found guilty of a misdemeanor crime. To obtain a permit, Wisconsin residents must submit to a background check and complete an application. Application procedures may include a training requirement.

The Wisconsin Department of Justice website is a good resource for learning about the new rules. Go to www.doj.state.wi.us and click on Concealed Carry Law for information on permits and more.

The Common Council passed a resolution that allows for the city to post notice to residents that such concealed weapons are not legal within its buildings. The Council resolution provides that the City of Milwaukee will hold to 2011 Wisconsin Act 35 which provides that any person who enters or remains in any part of a building that is owned, occupied or controlled by a local governmental unit while carrying a firearm shall be subject to a Class B forfeiture of up to \$1,000 if the person has been notified not to enter or remain in the building while carrying a firearm.

A similar resolution was passed urging Class B alcohol beverage licensees to post appropriate signs prohibiting members of the public from carrying firearms onto licensed premises.



**NOW IT'S
EVEN BETTER!**

Have questions?
Call (414) 286-CITY (2489)
www.MilwaukeeRecycles.com



With MORE Recycling Materials Accepted!

- > All plastics numbered ♻️♻️♻️
- > Aluminum containers, foil & pans
- > Bulky #2 plastics (ex. 5-gallon buckets)
- > Cardboard & paperboard
- > Cartons
- > Glass bottles & jars
- > Metal pots & pans
- > Mixed paper & junk mail
- > Newspapers, magazines & catalogs
- > Phone books
- > Steel cans & empty aerosol cans

NEWLY ACCEPTED ITEMS IN BLUE



New Garbage Cart Policies – Waste Reduction Works!

More people are finding they no longer need two or more garbage carts because they're doing an effective job of recycling and generating less garbage. If you have an extra cart, please call **286-CITY (2489)** or fill out an online service request at www.milwaukee.gov/eservices, and the city will collect it. One of the changes brought about by this year's budget, which Alderman Dudzik voted against, is a \$40 annual fee for every extra garbage cart you'd like added to your residence. The Sanitation Division repairs broken carts. Call **286-CITY (2489)** or fill out an online service request to have your cart picked up for repair or replacement.



Department of Neighborhood Services Serves the 11th District

Each year, the Department of Neighborhood Services (DNS) assembles data reflecting the number of complaint calls from each district and the expenses or costs associated with the permits and work done in a district. For the 11th, we have only 1,052 complaint calls from July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011. The smallest number of calls, our district is clearly doing its part to keep functioning porches, properly parked vehicles and clear yards the standard in our area. Further complaints to DNS may include nuisance properties related to noise, drugs or disrepair. Further, home improvements like electrical upgrades and other construction that requires permits also bode well for our district – a great sign that neighbors are invested in our area and are keeping watchful eyes on home values.



Simply call 211 to get help with life.

To call using a cell phone, dial 773-0211 or on a pay phone, dial 1-866-211-3380.

Safe Streets and Homes

A safe block is the cornerstone of thriving neighborhoods and a city that works. Block watches and neighborhood meetings are fundamental to crime prevention. Neighbors who organize around safety and communicate well are crucial in preventing crime.

My office can help link neighbors to a variety of city enforcement agencies – Police, Neighborhood Services, City Attorney – but those links are strongest when they are most direct. Get to know your neighbors, and get to know the city employees who can help keep your neighborhood safe. A safe block is an alert and organized block.

To improve safety and security in our community, the scope of solutions must also extend beyond issues of crime. A safe city has plentiful jobs, good schools and a rehabilitative system of criminal justice.

Here are some updates on actions being taken to make our community safer:

- Proactive, data-driven police deployments that prioritize beat patrols over response times to non-emergency calls
- Growth of neighborhood activism like our neighborhood groups and block watches
- Deferred Prosecutions and Neighborhood Callouts are using national best practices to solve no-violent crime with community justice instead of prison
- The Justice 2000 Drivers License Recovery Program works to ensure that unpaid parking tickets do not lead to cycles of felonies and unemployment.
- A new bicycle master plan and the traffic calming program are bringing bike lanes and speed bumps to a street near you.

Contact me if you'd like to learn more about our neighborhood organizations and block watches.

Act now to get up to a \$1,000 bonus!

SmartEnergyPays.com (877) 399-1203

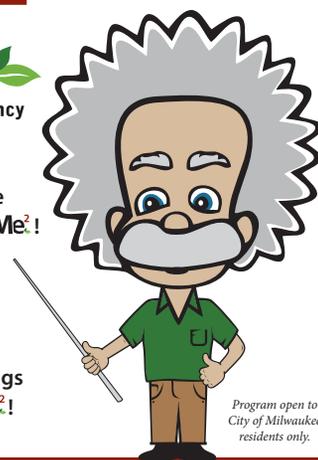
Me²

Milwaukee Energy Efficiency
Smart energy pays.

Want to make your home more energy efficient? **Me²!**

Want help with the up front costs? **Me²!**

Want to see instant savings on your energy bill? **Me²!**



Program open to City of Milwaukee residents only.

Contact an Energy Advocate today to make Smart Energy Pay!



Alderman
Joe Dudzik
11th District

Visit me on the web at:
www.milwaukee.gov/district11

E-mail me at:
jdudzi@milwaukee.gov

Kohl's Point Loomis Grand Re-Opening



Alderman Dudzik joined Mayor Tom Barrett for the grand re-opening of Kohl's at Point Loomis. The store has a long tenure in the area; three of the women who attended the grand opening have worked there since its original grand opening, 30 years ago! St. Thomas More High School's band also played at this celebratory event.

Alderman Dudzik

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Milwaukee, WI 53202

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Wildcat Football

The Hamilton Jr. Wildcats Football team was formed to provide young players the opportunity to play in a well-organized league and to learn the fundamentals of playing tackle football, build self confidence and make new friends. Though the team is called the Hamilton Jr. Wildcats, the club does not receive any funding from MPS. The Jr. Wildcats have to fundraise, look for sponsorships, cover registration fees and seek other sources of funding to support the program. The high school supports the team with the use of their football field for home games and for practices. Players who live in the Hamilton High School area or who attend one of the public or private schools in the Hamilton High School area are eligible to participate.

Alexander Hamilton High School is expanding its Royten Field project to continually fund efforts to improve the stadium each year. Their newly established Hamilton Junior Wildcats Program now offers full contact football to students entering 6th through 8th grades.

Other goals for the stadium include removing the existing goal posts and installing "H" style posts that will be shared with the Hamilton Soccer programs as well as repairing the field surface area with landscaping and funding its annual maintenance.

"Increasing seating, building a press box and building in a scholarship opportunity for graduating seniors are also goals of the Wildcats' program," Alderman Dudzik said. "This partnership between Educators' Credit Union, neighbors and Valor Development has been a great example of private-public partnerships enhancing our community and I look forward to watching the stadium and the program grow."



Jackson Park Crime Watch

Jackson Park residents have created a crime watch group in Yahoo Groups.

Those who choose to subscribe following Yahoo's procedures will receive automatic email messages about updates to the area.

Group moderators will attend police district crime analysis meetings and share news with the group.

Learn more by going to www.yahogroups.com and typing JacksonParkCrimeWatch in the search bar.

One Call That's All: 286-CITY (2489)

That one number can connect you with 21 departments, thousands of employees and 100s of city services, ranging from building permits to parking permission to library hours to garbage pickups.

Alderman Dudzik says the city continues to seek ways to improve communications with residents, and this one-stop number for city services makes it even easier to find the right department and person to handle your complaint or request. Residents will still call 911 for emergencies but can use the new number for any other city-related calls.

Of course you can always call Alderman Dudzik's office at **286-3768**.