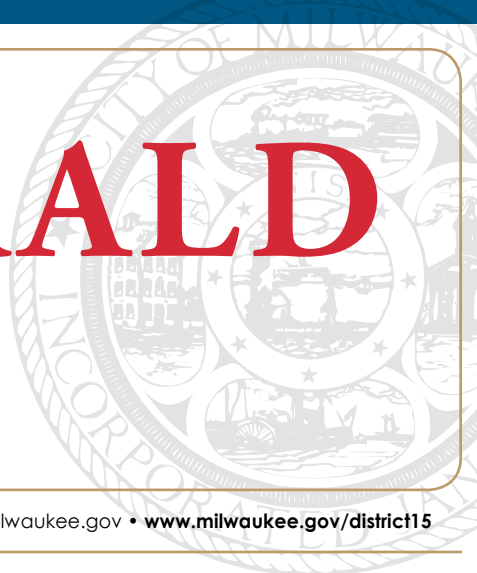




HinesHERALD

– COMMON COUNCIL PRESIDENT –
WILLIE L. HINES, JR.
15th Aldermanic District



City Hall, Room 205 • 200 E. Wells Street • Milwaukee, WI 53202 • PHONE: (414) 286-3965 • EMAIL: whines@milwaukee.gov • www.milwaukee.gov/district15

Dear Residents,

Milwaukee faces many struggles, and in this past year, we've seen a number of successes and solutions implemented that move our great city forward. The work doesn't end there, but within this newsletter, you will learn about some comprehensive programs designed to help prevent foreclosures and help those who are looking to buy homes in their neighborhood, helping to reinvest in the community.

You'll also read about new legislation which includes fines for illegal dumping and offering more serious penalties for those who circumvent the law and destroy our neighborhoods with waste.

There are a number of new developments in our area, including the Capuchin Apartments and some of the great work happening on Sherman Blvd.

Several of the measures passed at the state level this year have directly impacted Milwaukee, including the concealed carry weapon law. However, legislation at the city level helps to keep concealed weapons out of our city buildings. We also face, as a city, significant reductions in state shared revenue and the repercussions of the state's new collective bargaining laws. Perhaps impacting us most, however, is the new voter identification law in the State of Wisconsin. Please read in this newsletter how to secure your legal identification to ensure that your right to vote isn't denied.

There was good news after the 2010 Census results were returned to us: Milwaukee's population is not declining at the rates of other cities and we were, for the most part, stable over the past 10 years. Shifts in our demographics, however, mean there have been some changes to the districts and voting wards. Access information through this newsletter to be sure you're aware of your new polling location.

Winter will be here soon, and you'll find the snow removal options and policies in this document as well.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact my office at 286-3965. Have a safe and warm holiday season.

Sincerely,

Willie L. Hines, Jr.



FALL/WINTER 2011

Residency Press Conference



President Hines was joined by a number of his colleagues in the City Hall rotunda in spring 2011 to rally against the state proposal to lift the residency requirement for City of Milwaukee workers.

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.



Find out more online!

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

Post Office Closings

The U. S. Postal Service (USPS) has announced its intention to assess whether closing or consolidation of five post offices in the City of Milwaukee is appropriate given factors that include workloads, customer demand and availability of alternative services. These five post offices are identified as the Mid City, Parklawn, Teutonia, Hampton and Dr. Martin Luther King facilities, all located in primarily African-American neighborhoods serving approximately 160,000 city residents.

President Hines and the Council passed a resolution that urges the Postmaster General of the United States and the U.S. Postal Regulatory Commission to maintain affordable, secure and dependable postal services in the city. Additionally, a number of public meetings have been hosted to generate feedback for the USPS to aid us in this process.

Many of the neighborhoods that would be affected by the possible post office closures have already had delivery stoppages because of several concerns, and USPS mailboxes in many of them have been removed or relocated according to President Hines, which is why the facilities are needed more than ever.

Watch your mail for notices on future meetings and opportunities to provide feedback. You may also contact our office to learn more.



HUD Loan Program



President Hines, shown here with Alderman Murphy and Mayor Barrett, spoke on the Office of Housing and Urban Development's decision to offer Milwaukee emergency loan help this summer for homeowners facing foreclosure. The federal agency allocated more than \$51 million to help Milwaukee homeowners.

Voter Identification Laws Have Changed

A new law in the state of Wisconsin requires that all voters show valid identification at the polls. The law goes into effect with the spring primary election, Tuesday, February 21, 2012.

Valid forms of identification include:

- A Wisconsin driver's license, even if driving privileges are suspended/revoked
- A Wisconsin DOT identification card
- A military ID card issued by a U.S. uniformed service
- A U.S. Passport

Any of the above identifications must have an expiration date after the November 2, 2010 election.

- A certificate of naturalization that was issued not earlier than two years before the date of an election at which it is presented
- An unexpired driving receipt issued by Wisconsin DOT
- An unexpired identification card receipt issued by Wisconsin DOT
- An identification card issued by a federally recognized Indian tribe in WI
- An unexpired identification card issued by a Wisconsin-accredited university or college that contains the following:
 - Date of Issuance
 - Signature of Student
 - Expiration date not later than two years after Date of Issuance

If you do not have any of the above identification, you may obtain a FREE identification card from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation. For more on obtaining proper identification for voting, please look to www.milwaukee.gov/election or contact the Election Commission at 286-3491.

McDonald's Scholars



President Hines, Mayor Barrett, Ronald McDonald and Council members presented the annual McDonald's scholarship awards to area students earlier this year. The event is hosted in the Common Council chamber, recognizing the best and the brightest in the city.

Be the Change



President Hines (rear center) joined Alderman Ashanti Hamilton as he launched his **Be the Change** program for young men in Milwaukee Public Schools. The program teaches life skills, literacy and leadership. He is pictured here at City Hall with the inaugural class.

Concealed Carry Legislation

The State of Wisconsin has passed legislation allowing for the legal carrying of concealed firearms and weapons. President Hines and the Council passed a resolution that allows for the city to post notice to residents that such concealed weapons are not legal within its buildings. Posted signs prohibiting the carrying of firearms and other dangerous weapons upon or within buildings and structures owned or leased by the city is in alignment with the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances prohibiting the carrying of firearms in city buildings.

The presence of firearms and other dangerous weapons in places where residents and members of the public engage in city business and public discourse promotes an atmosphere of fear and potential confrontation. The Council resolution provides that the City of Milwaukee will hold to 2011 Wisconsin Act 35. The act 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. This occurs if the person ignores the appropriate posted signs.

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.

To read the files in their entirety, go to <http://milwaukee.legistar.com/Legislation>. File #110469 refers to signage in city buildings and file #110624 refers to postings at licensed alcohol beverage premises.



Important Info

- City Services**286-CITY (2489)
- Emergency Police/Fire/Ambulance**911
- Police (non-emergency)**933-4444
- Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault**286-2997
- Flu Hotline**286-3616
- Parking Hotline**286-8350
- Department of Public Works**286-CITY (2489)
Snow removal, garbage pickup, etc.
- Department of Neighborhood Services** ..286-2268
Landlord questions, graffiti, etc.
- E-Services:** www.milwaukee.gov/eservices



Simply call 211 to get help with life.

To call using a cell phone, dial 414-773-0211
or on a pay phone, dial 1-866-211-3380.

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

SmartEnergyPays.com
(877) 399-1203

Me²
Milwaukee Energy Efficiency
Smart energy pays.

**An energy efficient home is
comfortable and cost saving.**

**Affordable loans,
trusted partners
and trained
Energy Advocates
can help you
make it happen.**



**Contact an Energy Advocate today
to make Smart Energy Pay!**



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**

New Development: Capuchin Apartments

The Capuchin Apartments respond to the Milwaukee area's serious shortage in high-quality affordable and supportive housing, especially for individuals and couples who face barriers to living in the traditional housing market, including those with histories of homelessness, mental health issues, and very low incomes.

The effort reflects a unique regional collaboration among Milwaukee County, the City of Milwaukee, federal and state government, and several non-profit organizations to fund and launch the effort. The newly constructed facility incorporates the highest standards of sustainable design, including Enterprise Green Communities certification, reflecting environmental soundness.

Heartland Housing, an experienced nonprofit affordable housing developer, is the lead developer and management agent. St. Ben's

Community Meal, a local leader in caring for the most poor and vulnerable in Milwaukee, oversees the provision of supportive services along with The Guest House of Milwaukee.



Common Council President Hines is joined by Governor Scott Walker, Antonio Riley, then executive director of the Wisconsin Housing & Economic Development Authority, and others as they break ground for the Capuchin Apartments at 2501 W. Fond du Lac Ave.

One Call That's All...286-CITY

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

President Hines 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 calls. Of course, you can always call President Hines' office at 286-3965.

Free Cribs to Promote Safe Sleeping

In Milwaukee, the second leading cause of infant mortality is Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS), which is often related to unsafe sleep.

Free cribs are available to families who are unable to purchase one. Before a family is given a crib, parents are provided education and training on proper sleep position and sleep environment for the baby. The cribs are available from the Milwaukee Health Department at (414) 286-8620 as well as from the Black Health Coalition of Wisconsin at (414) 933-0064.

Emergency Loan Program for Homeowners

Furnace not working? Water heater not working? Active leaks from pipes, roof or flashing? Serious structural problems or hazardous electrical problems?

If you or someone you know has run into any of the above listed serious emergency home problems, the City of Milwaukee's Homeowners' Emergency Loan Program (HELP) may be available to offer assistance.

The HELP is available to income-eligible owner-occupants anywhere in the city. The program is for emergencies that, if not corrected, would make the home uninhabitable. HELP is not for maintenance, code violations, or other work that is not a true emergency. The program offers loans for low to moderate income homeowners. It does not offer grants. Call the Neighborhood Improvement Development Corp. at (414) 286-5608.



Find out more online!

For application information, or to see if you qualify, please go to:
www.milwaukee.gov/EmergencyLoanProgram.htm

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 actions being taken to make our community safer:

- Growth of neighborhood activism like our neighborhood groups and block watches
- Deferred Prosecutions and Neighborhood Callouts are using national best practices to solve non-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

If you'd like to start a block watch, contact:

Police District 3 - 2333 N. 49th St. - (414) 935-7233

Police District 5 - 2920 N. 4th St. - (414) 935-7252

Police District 7 - 3626 W. Fond du Lac Ave. - (414) 935-7272

PRESIDENT'S SPEAKER SERIES



President Hines welcomed newly elected County Executive Chris Abele to the Common Council Chamber in June to discuss opportunities for partnerships with the city.

GUEST PASTOR



President Hines welcomed Reverend Doctor Demetrius Williams of Community Baptist Church to the Common Council in May.

Learn Effective Property Management

Landlords can learn to screen new tenants and how to deal with nuisance properties by enrolling in the City of Milwaukee's **FREE Landlord Training Program**. You'll receive five hours of training and a 100-page manual describing professional property management guidelines. For more information or to register, call Department of Neighborhood Services Program Assistant Jeanne Hagner at 286-2954 or email her at jhagne@milwaukee.gov.



Find out more online!

The Landlord Training schedule can be found on DNS's website at: www.milwaukee.gov/landlordtraining

Tip Hotline Means \$\$ for Reporting Illegal Dumping

The Common Council has approved a tip hotline whereby callers can be eligible to receive reward money after anonymously providing information on incidents of illegal dumping of debris and/or hazardous materials.

Illegal dumping includes dumping of items, brush, and/or materials on streets, sidewalks, parking lots, vacant lots, alleys, or at vacant properties.

The 2011 city budget appropriated \$25,000 in funding for the tip hotline, and on March 1 the Common Council voted to get the hotline up and operating.

If you see or know of illegal dumping, call WeTip at 1-800-78-CRIME. If the information provided leads to a conviction, you may be eligible for a reward up to \$1,000.

If you witness illegal dumping, please provide a detailed description of the vehicle(s) (license plate info, make/model, etc.) and the individual(s) involved. If possible, also provide a description of the items and/or material that was dumped.

The hotline is answered by bilingual operators 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Calls are taken for all crimes. All calls are anonymous, not just confidential.

What to do with Electronics Items?

Wisconsin state law changed a year ago to ban TVs, computers, and many other electronics items from landfills, and it applies not only to businesses, but to everybody. Since July 1, 2010, the Department of Public Works Self Help Centers have accepted for recycling (at no charge) all of these items that fall under the law.

Milwaukee's New *Single Sort* Recycling Program



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



The city's new single sort recycling program is now in effect. Single sort recycling is a system that allows all recyclables to be mixed together in the recycling cart or bin. It means that only one sort is necessary – separating all the recyclables from trash. **Papers and containers no longer need to be kept separate.** Special equipment will be used to separate them once they reach a recycling facility.

However, it does NOT mean that garbage and recyclables may be mixed together.

Important points for Milwaukee residents:

- New items are added to the list of accepted materials (see graphic above).
- Single sort offers increased convenience for residents.
- Single sort brings increased revenue to the city.
- Single sort allows the use of the same type of truck to collect either garbage or recycling on a given day, meaning the city can serve residents more efficiently.
- Cart dividers will be removed from carts throughout the city. This will be a gradual process, and the dividers will be recycled.
- This change supports the goal of reaching 40% diversion from landfill by 2020.

Unacceptable Materials:

- Mirrors and window or auto glass
- Ceramics, porcelain, china, & drinking glasses
- Glass cookware/bake ware
- Household items (toasters, microwaves, etc.)
- Styrofoam or foam packaging material
- Needles & Sharps, other medical waste
- Plastic bottles that contained motor oil or antifreeze
- Food soiled paper (clean pizza boxes are accepted)
- Light bulbs
- Unmarked plastics
- Plastic bag & film
- Coat hangers
- Batteries
- Tissue & paper towels
- Trash

Preparation Guidelines:

- Food & beverage containers must be emptied and rinsed
- Flatten cardboard boxes
- Place extra recyclables next to cart
- Shredded paper must be placed either in clear plastic bags (tied off) or in paper bags (rolled and stapled shut)



Find out more at:

www.milwaukee.gov/electronics



Find out more at:

www.milwaukeeecycles.com

Not Too Late To Make Plans For Winter

Although winter is still several weeks away in Milwaukee, when it arrives we can expect snow emergencies. Alderman Hines wants to remind all residents of some of the requirements during snow and ice control operations.

Remember that public safety is the first priority during snow and ice control on the city's 1,400 miles of city streets. Streets are prioritized based on traffic volume, public transportation routes, access to emergency services and schools.

The Response Depends On The Storm

The Department of Public Works will use only one or two salt trucks to tackle intermittent salting of isolated slippery spots, but a full scale plowing for a big storm will use more than 360 pieces of equipment, supplemented by private contractors. The most common operation is a General Ice Control in which 90 salt trucks are sent out citywide.

During a major storm, a General Plowing is called and may take 12 to 18 hours to complete the initial plowing followed by several more days cleaning up after parked cars, touching up intersections and widening streets.

Please Shovel Your Sidewalks

A reminder that property owners and occupants are required by city law to clear sidewalks abutting their property of snow or ice within 24 hours after the snow and ice have stopped falling. Failure to do so could result in the city doing it and charging you.

Move Your Car To Help Snow Removal

The single biggest problem during major snowstorms is parked and abandoned cars. The plows try to get as close to the curb as they can but those "snowbirds" get in the way and prevent them from completing the job. Alderman Hines asks that you move your vehicles so plows can clear the streets curb to curb. Remember it is illegal to park in one place for more than 24 hours.

The Milwaukee Public Schools make a number of school playgrounds available for overnight parking during snow emergencies. Call 286-CITY (2489) for the location of a playground nearest your home.

Holiday Tree Disposal

Garbage collection crews will pick up the tree if it is placed where the garbage is collected. If your collection is in an alley, trees must be placed at the alley line for collection, not on the street. Only residents whose garbage is collected from the street may place their tree at the curb to be picked up. Trees may also be taken to the Self-Help Centers located at 3879 W. Lincoln Ave. or 6660 N. Industrial Rd. where they will be composted or turned into mulch.

The Self-Help Centers winter hours, Nov. 27, 2011 through April 7, 2012, are 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. They will be closed on Sundays, Mondays and city holidays. In addition to the city's Self-Help Centers, private locations in the Milwaukee area may also accept unwanted items.



Find out more online!

For more info visit: www.milwaukee.gov/selfhelpcenters

"Hardship" Assistance Can Help

Is shoveling your sidewalk after a big Milwaukee snowstorm a "mission impossible" because of age or disability? Alderman Hines wants you to know that city sanitation workers may be able to give you a helping hand. If you are a senior citizen or disabled and living in a single-family, owner-occupied home, and physically unable to do the shoveling, you may be eligible for "hardship" assistance.

Eligibility requirements:

- Resident must own the home
- Others in home must also be unable to shovel
 - Only the public sidewalk is cleared, no driveways
 - Shoveling done only when full city-wide plow
 - snowfall total at least 4 inches
 - \$10 per event - put on property tax bill
 - Call Sanitation Division at 286-3345 for application

Winter Garbage & Recycling Collection

Garbage and recycling collection schedules will change in the winter due to the management of snow and ice by city crews. Schedule changes will begin December 5, 2011 and end April 13, 2012. Residents must clear snow and ice to provide access to carts.

If you have curbside collection: Carts will be retrieved from yards during winter months. Extra items must still be placed curbside for pickup.

If you have alley collection: Carts will continue to be serviced at the alley line.

NOTE: There is a \$50 charge for collection of trash piles larger than one cubic yard (roughly the same size of an easy chair).

Winter Parking

- NO PARKING DEC. 1 TO MARCH 1

No overnight parking is allowed on through highways and mass transit (bus) routes from December 1 to March 1. These streets are not posted. In case of a "Snow Emergency" prior to December 1 or after March 1, vehicles must be moved to a side street and must be legally parked in conformity with all other regulations on the proper side of the street.



For a list of these streets please see the Winter Parking Regulations at www.milwaukee.gov/parkingregulations



*Have a safe and joyful
holiday season!*

No Garbage or Recycling Collection on City Holidays

- **Thanksgiving**

Thursday & Friday – November 24 & 25, 2011

- **Christmas Eve & Day**

Friday & Monday – December 23 & 26, 2011

- **New Years Eve & Day**

Friday & Monday – December 30, 2011 & January 2, 2012

- **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**

Monday – January 16, 2012



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President Hines

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Foreclosure Help for Homeowners

The City of Milwaukee is committed to helping our neighborhoods remain healthy for generations to come. We are coordinating with various organizations, government agencies and private lenders and reaching out to homeowners facing foreclosure.

The Common Council voted to fund a new foreclosure mediation program through the Department of City Development (DCD). The program offers legal aid to homeowners facing foreclosure and helps them negotiate solutions with their lender.

Also, neighbors should report problems with boarded up houses to the Department of Neighborhood Services. Call (414) 286-2268 with the address of the property in question or visit www.milwaukee.gov/dns for more information. DCD also provides programs like the Buy in Your Neighborhood program and other stabilization options.

Go to www.milwaukee.gov/dcd for more information. The following organizations also offer foreclosure solutions:

Select Milwaukee

(414) 562-5070 • info@selectmilwaukee.org
www.selectmilwaukee.org

Neighborhood Stabilization Project

nspinfo@milwaukee.gov
www.milwaukee.gov/NeighborhoodStabilizationProgram.htm

Take Root Milwaukee is a valuable resource that provides free or low-cost, trustworthy and confidential assistance to help you purchase and keep your new home, in addition to alternatives to foreclosure. The group also offers a number of seminars and educational sessions to help with the home buying or foreclosure process.

Take Root Milwaukee

(414) 921-4149
www.takerootmilwaukee.com



Find out more online!

Visit www.milwaukeehousinghelp.org for more information on how homebuyers and investors interested in purchasing a foreclosed property can access these resources.