

12th District Alderman

# James N. Witkowiak



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## Dear Neighbors,

I'm eager to update you on the many changes happening in Milwaukee and within this newsletter, you'll find information on one of the most important: Voter Identification. A new state law requires identification at the polls and you'll find the rules and instructions on how to obtain proper ID within these pages.

You'll also learn about new developments in our area, including projects that work to give young people skills and experience like Youthbuild. Milwaukee continues to weather the effects of the recent economic crisis and foreclosure programs and neighborhood housing solutions have been essential components in our recovery. Recently, Mayor Barrett appointed me to the Housing Authority for the city and as a commissioner, I am committed to working toward stable and safe housing options for our city's residents.

The 12th District continues to be a safe and engaging place to live and you'll see images of the National Night Out and Witkowiak Park rededication in this newsletter as well.

Please remember that Milwaukee winters bring snow and all the shoveling and parking restrictions that come with it, and reminders of those guidelines are also listed within.

Keep safe and warm this winter season, and as always, do not hesitate to contact my office with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

James N. Witkowiak  
Alderman, 12th District

*Residentes pueden llamar a la oficina para servicio en español y los boletines próximos incluirán más noticias en español. Vaya a [www.milwaukee.gov/district12](http://www.milwaukee.gov/district12) para noticias en español.*

## Make a Difference: Volunteer

The Big Brothers Big Sisters mission is to provide children facing adversity in Milwaukee and Waukesha counties with strong and enduring, professionally supported one-to-one mentoring relationships that change their lives for the better, forever.

Volunteers are matched with a child with similar interests and personality and get together 3-4 times a month on their own schedule. Volunteers share the things they love doing with a child. Sometimes it's as simple as playing video games, hitting the playground, going to a museum, or just hanging out together.

With hundreds of children currently on the waiting list, the need is great. Call (414) 258-4778 to get more information or visit [www.bbbsmilwaukee.org](http://www.bbbsmilwaukee.org).

## Council for the Spanish Speaking Gets Capital Funding

Legislation sponsored by Alderman Witkowiak helped the Council for the Spanish Speaking secure \$40,000 from the Development Fund capital account to help repair the devastation wrought by the 2010 summer floods. The Council has invested thousands of dollars into renovating the Hillview Building, 1615 S. 22nd St. into a community center that provides job training, education and other social services to more than 2,000 persons.

With its 32 employees and facilities for education and job training, as well as office space for community organizations that offer job placement services, the Hillview Building project contributes to economic development on the Near South Side.



## Committee Assignments

**CHAIR** Zoning, Neighborhoods & Development

**MEMBER** Community & Economic Development Committee, Public Safety Committee, Steering & Rules Committee, Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee (HACM)

View meetings on the web at: [www.milwaukee.gov/channel25](http://www.milwaukee.gov/channel25)

# District News

## National Night Out

*BELOW: Alderman Witkowiak attended National Night Out, a neighborhood public safety event at Kosciuszko Park.*



## Milwaukee's New *Single Sort* Recycling Program



**NOW IT'S EVEN BETTER!**

Have questions?

Call (414) 286-CITY (2489)

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

### 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)

IMPACT

# 2-1-1

Get Connected. Get Answers.

United Way of Greater Milwaukee & Milwaukee County

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**Simply call 211 to get help with life**

From a cell phone, dial (414) 773-0211 or  
from a pay phone, dial (866) 211-3380.

## District Roll Call

**BELOW: Alderman Witkowiak hosted a public police roll call in the district. Roll calls made visible to the public are one way the Milwaukee Police Department works to increase safety and awareness of community officers.**



## Free Landlord Training

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.

**ADVANCED REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED**  
For information or to register call 286-2954 or e-mail [jhagne@milwaukee.gov](mailto:jhagne@milwaukee.gov).

Learn more at:  
[www.milwaukee.gov/landlordtraining](http://www.milwaukee.gov/landlordtraining)

## Veterans: Access To Information & Benefits

**If you're a veteran of the U.S. armed forces and need assistance with benefits and information, please call:**

**Federal VA Benefits Line**  
1-800-827-1000

**Clement Zablocki VA Medical Center**  
(414) 384-2000

**WI State Dept. of Veterans Affairs**  
(608) 266-1311 or  
1-800-WIS-VETS (947-8387)

**Milwaukee County Veterans Service Office**  
(414) 382-1727

## Winter Parking

### • NO PARKING DECEMBER 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. For a list of these streets please go to the Winter Parking Regulations section at [www.milwaukee.gov/parkingregulations](http://www.milwaukee.gov/parkingregulations). 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.

### • EXCEPTION TO ALTERNATE SIDE NIGHT PARKING

Overnight parking is allowed on both sides of the street from March 1 to December 1. Alternate side night parking is allowed from December 1 to March 1. These streets are not posted. For a list of these streets please go to the Winter Parking Regulations section at [www.milwaukee.gov/parkingregulations](http://www.milwaukee.gov/parkingregulations).

### • 4" RULE

Certain residential streets are posted "No Parking When Snow Falls 4 Inches or More." Parking is allowed on both sides of the street, except when snow has accumulated on the street surface to the depth of 4 inches or more. Then no parking is allowed on the side of the street where the sign is posted until the snow has been removed – day or night or at any time of the year. To determine whether this regulation applies to a specific street go to Street Parking Regulations at [www.milwaukee.gov/parkingbyaddress](http://www.milwaukee.gov/parkingbyaddress).



## Need Assistance or Have a Question?

Efficient delivery of the hundreds of services provided by city government is only a phone call or a computer click away – in the NEW, full-color "Call for Action" telephone directory. The popular directory is arranged alphabetically by specific problems and topics, and also includes helpful web addresses and additional information about community attractions.

Remember that in addition to contacting Alderman Witkowiak's office for help with your concerns, there is one number – 286-CITY (2489) – that can put you in touch with the right department for any questions or concerns about city services.

To save postage and staff costs, please download or print your own copy of the new Call for Action booklet by going to Alderman Witkowiak's webpage at [www.milwaukee.gov/district12](http://www.milwaukee.gov/district12). If you need to have a copy mailed to your home, please email a request to [mmcgui@milwaukee.gov](mailto:mmcgui@milwaukee.gov).

# Exciting New 12th District Developments



## Cameras on Cesar Chavez

*ABOVE LEFT - A partnership between Operation Impact and the Cesar Chavez Business Improvement District (BID #38) brought additional exterior surveillance cameras to the busy stretch of S. Cesar Chavez Dr. from W. National Ave. to W. Greenfield Ave. in 2011.*

## Water Council Incubator

*ABOVE RIGHT - A Walker's Point warehouse at 223 W. Pittsburgh Ave. will be converted into a research lab and offices for water technology business start-ups, a project that could spur development of a nearby business park that targets water-tech companies.*

*This incubator's shared facilities will include a water flow lab provided by Badger Meter Inc., which businesses and University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee researchers can use to run tests to help convert ideas into products. The lab is unique in the structure and will allow scientists to conduct flow tests on site, rather than send them out. The project will also house UWM's new School of Freshwater Sciences and renovations on the building are expected to be complete in 2013.*

## Witkowiak Park Rededication



*Witkowiak Park, the largest recreational space east of I-94 on the Near South Side, has been rededicated. Alderman Witkowiak joined Mayor Barrett to shoot some hoops as they reminisced about Witkowiak's father, who the park is named for.*

*The rededication ceremony highlighted new soccer goals, safer entries to the park and new landscaping. The project is a collaborative effort of the Department of City Development, the Neighborhood Improvement Development Corp., Rockwell Automation and the Department of Public Works.*

## Youthbuild Comes to the 12th District

City-owned vacant lots at 1619 S. Cesar Chavez Dr., 2227 S. 17th Street, 1638 S.23rd St. and 2168 S. 17th St. were sold to the Milwaukee Christian Center (MCC) for the construction of new homes. In addition to providing affordable homeownership opportunities, sale of these lots to MCC will allow the organization to teach home construction skills through its Youthbuild and Adultbuild Programs. Youthbuild, a Wisconsin Fresh Start Initiative, is a workforce development program that provides low-income, at-risk youth and young adults, ages 18 to 21, with comprehensive training and employment services in order to help them lead responsible lives. Participants receive academic assistance so they can earn their GEDs, as well as hands-on construction skills through the building or rehabilitation of houses.

# Not Too Late To Make Plans For Winter



**B**elieve it: Although winter is still a month or so away in Milwaukee, when it arrives we can expect snow emergencies. Alderman Witkowiak 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 Witkowiak 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.

The Self-Help Centers winter hours, November 27, 2011 through April 7, 2012, are 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. They will be closed on Sundays,

Mondays and city holidays. For more information visit [www.milwaukee.gov/selfhelpcenters](http://www.milwaukee.gov/selfhelpcenters). In addition to the city's Self-Help Centers, private locations in the Milwaukee area may also accept unwanted items.

## "Hardship" Assistance Can Help

Is shoveling your sidewalk after a big Milwaukee snowstorm a "mission impossible" because of age or disability? Alderman Witkowiak 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 5th. 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).*



## No Garbage or Recycling Collection on City Holidays

It should be noted that no garbage or recycling will be collected on the following dates:

- **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

## 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 is not officially in effect until 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](http://www.milwaukee.gov/election) or contact my office at 286-3762.

12th District Alderman

## James N. Witkowiak



### Alderman Witkowiak

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Milwaukee, WI 53202

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## Streetcar Returns to Downtown Milwaukee

Alderman Witkowiak was one of many sponsors of the Milwaukee Streetcar project, a comprehensive effort that examined the value of adding a streetcar to the City of Milwaukee's available transportation options. Total project cost is estimated to be \$64.6 million, with \$54.9 million coming from federal Interstate Cost Estimate Substitute funding that has been earmarked for the Milwaukee Connector project. These dollars were granted to the City of Milwaukee with the sole purpose of developing rail transportation options within the city. If the Council had voted down the rail project, all funds would have had to be returned.

The current status of the legislation allows the commissioner of the Department of Public Works to continue moving forward with the project elements, including selecting a streetcar vendor, undertaking the final design engineering for the project and applying for any additional federal funding that may be available to the city now that Milwaukee has committed to move forward with the system.

The initial project will bring a 2.1 mile streetcar loop to the downtown business and tourism district, with continuing proposals for grant-funded rail line additions to other parts of the city. Early estimates on the use of the system include projected ridership of 588,880 annual rides in 2015 and 697,600 annual rides in 2030.

The project helps increase the area's economy at multiple levels by increasing business options, providing new resources for those visiting our city and for the numerous construction and maintenance roles the line will require.

SmartEnergyPays.com

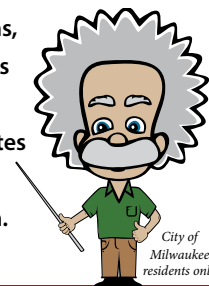
(877) 399-1203

# Me<sup>2</sup>

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*Smart energy pays.*

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