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- Steering & Rules Committee

ROBERT G. DONOVAN
Alderman, 8th District

April 19, 2012

Dear Mayor Barrett:

I am writing to you on behalf of myself and the large majority of Milwaukee residents who strongly oppose the downtown streetcar project.

We think the downtown streetcar boondoggle is a massive waste of public money that will serve very few city residents on its 2.1-mile route in and near the downtown area. I am convinced that a full 70% of Milwaukee residents do not support the streetcar project.

Very specifically, Mr. Mayor, I would like to know if you win the upcoming gubernatorial recall election, will you allocate state money to help subsidize the streetcar's yearly operational costs? If your answer is "no," then I strongly suggest that you put the entire project on hold, as the new mayor of Milwaukee may be opposed to the streetcar project (and especially to its ongoing hefty operational costs!).

If we get a new mayor, he or she may actually listen to the people of Milwaukee on this issue.

But I ask you to prove me wrong – prove to me that a majority of city residents favor the streetcar project. Let's have a vote – a referendum on the issue – and then we will have our answer once and for all. I believe such a massive public project that will affect generations of city residents for decades to come deserves a public vote.

So I urge you to give the people what they truly want – a vote on the streetcar project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert G. Donovan".

Robert G. Donovan
Alderman, 8th District