



Alderman
Robert W. Puente
9th District

SPRING 2014

Dear Neighbor,

This winter has been brutal, but it will soon be coming to end (and thank goodness for that!). One sure sign of spring is the city’s Clean and Green program, which allows residents to leave extra materials and items out for collection by Sanitation crews (see information on page 5). Also, on page 6 you will find helpful information about city services (some winter related) and regulations.

In this edition of my newsletter you can also catch up on new business development news (please see page 2) as well as the city’s Summer Youth Internship Program (page 6). You can read about national recognition for Alexian Village (page 3), the Granville Business Improvement District (also page 3) and the “No texting while driving” pledge campaign (page 4).

You will meet the new commander of the Milwaukee Police Department’s 4th District (page 6) and you can find out about a new motorcycle safety awareness initiative that I helped to create (page 5).

Please have a safe and prosperous spring.

Sincerely,

Robert W. Puente
Alderman – 9th District



Sign up for an E-Notify account to receive 9th District news releases, meeting notices and other updates:

www.milwaukee.gov/enotify

CONTACT INFORMATION

City Hall - Room 205
200 E. Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202

E-mail: rpuent@milwaukee.gov
Web: www.milwaukee.gov/district9

Office: (414) 286-2868
Fax: (414) 286-3456
TDD: (414) 286-2025

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Vice Chair
Public Safety Committee

Chair
Ambulance Service Board

Member
Licenses Committee
Wisconsin Center District Board

Watch council & committee meetings at:
www.milwaukee.gov/channel25



Milwaukee as top 2014 destination shows we’re doing things right

Milwaukee has made *Jetsetter* magazine’s list of top recommended travel destinations in 2014.

The *Jetsetter* article and posting, entitled “**Where to go in 2014,**” has Milwaukee at fourth on the list, behind only Riga, Latvia, downtown Los Angeles, and Glasgow, Scotland. Milwaukee, downtown L.A., and Crested Butte, Colorado, are the only places on the list located in the U.S.

Recently, **ABC Travel Guides for Kids** – a travel product company – recommended Milwaukee as its top destination for family travel for 2014, touting many of the city’s great amenities and attractions, including the Milwaukee County Zoo, the Domes, Discovery World, and the Milwaukee Art Museum.

Alderman Puente noted that Milwaukee was recently named as one of the top art cities in the U.S., and also received a great write-up in the *New York Times* (“36 Hours in Milwaukee”), among other recent honors. “As residents we know how great Milwaukee is, and now we’re recommended in some very elite company for top 2014 recommended travel destinations – this is great news for our city,” he said.

Go to www.jetsetter.com/feature/destination-2014 to see the entire *Jetsetter* post.



Priorities and Services Maintained in Council-Approved 2014 Budget

The 2014 amended city budget approved November 1, 2013 by the Common Council addresses key priorities and maintains quality city services at current levels.

The 2014 tax levy approved by the Common Council is \$253.809 million – up slightly but less than the projected rate of inflation of 1.6 percent – and approximately \$560,000 less than the Mayor’s proposed 2014 budget levy.

When fees are included, the 2014 tax levy means the owner of an average city home valued at \$103,000 will see a \$16.94 increase reflected in city taxes and municipal services fees.

The 2014 adopted budget again meets the state’s directives for local government budgets (property tax levy freeze) and reflects the Council’s overall agreement with residents in terms of priorities and flat spending. The budget is also in line with the recent report from the non-partisan Public Policy Forum that gave the city high marks for the 2014 budget – especially given the city’s substantial pension contribution, stagnant state aids, state-imposed property tax limits, and \$7.6 million in expiring grants.

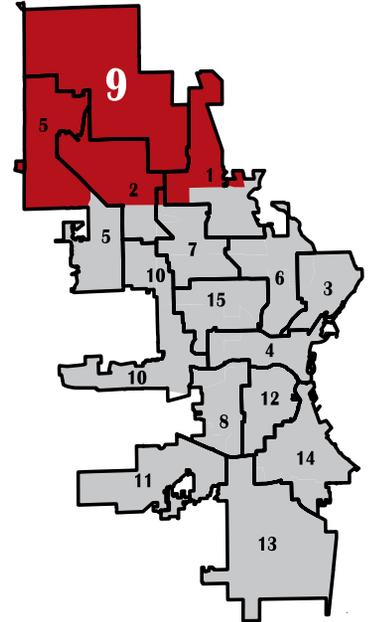
Project Clean and Green

Project Clean & Green will be held again this spring, allowing residents of the 9th District to leave extra materials and items out for pickup by Sanitation crews.

However it should be noted that no construction materials, hazardous waste, paint, electronics, more than 5 automobile tires, or brush piles larger than 2 cubic yards (equivalent to a 6-foot sofa) will be accepted.

In the 9th District (please see map), Project Clean and Green will take place from May 20 – May 28 for all residences.

If you have questions about the project, please call 286-CITY(2489).



Motorcycle Safety Awareness Week

Alderman Puente co-sponsored legislation adopted by the Common Council establishing Motorcycle Safety Awareness Week in Milwaukee every year during the first week in May.

The resolution, authored by Alderwoman Milele A. Coggs and co-sponsored by Alderman Puente, Alderman Joe Davis, Sr. and Alderman Jim Bohl sets the inaugural Motorcycle Safety Awareness Week during the first week of May 2014 (May 5 – May 9).

The legislation was approved following moving testimony from the family of Vinencia Dawson, who was killed in a motorcycle accident on June 30, 2013. Family and friends of Ms. Dawson testified on the resolution at committee and were in attendance at the Council meeting when it was adopted. “Milwaukee is home to the most famous motorcycle company in the world (Harley-Davidson), and it is only right that the city take on a role as a leader in motorcycle safety, education and awareness,” Alderman Puente said.

According to the resolution, for the three-year period of 2010-2012 there were 538 motorcycle accidents in the city, including 14 fatal accidents. It also indicated that motorcycle accidents have been on the rise in Wisconsin for the past several years.



No texting while driving – take the pledge!

AT&T, AAA, and the Wisconsin State Patrol have joined forces for the **It Can Wait®** movement to urge everyone – especially students and young people – that text messages can and should wait until after driving.

“Texting while driving is inattentive driving at its worst, and can lead to terrible accidents with serious injuries and even worse outcomes,” said Alderman Puente. “I urge students to take the pledge to never text behind the wheel at www.ItCanWait.com.”

Wisconsin marked the third anniversary of its no-texting-while-driving ban in December 2013. The law prohibits sending an e-mail or text message while driving and imposes a fine of up to \$400. As a primary enforcement law, officers may stop and ticket drivers solely for texting and driving. Wisconsin is among 41 states that ban text messaging by all drivers.



New Crime Watch Sign Program

An ordinance to establish a crime watch sign program throughout Milwaukee has recently been approved by the Common Council. Although the police have yet to set up eligibility guidelines for participation of neighborhoods, business and block watch groups, provisions for the three types of crime watch signs have already been made.

The three types of signs that will be put in for the program will be those installed at locations along the perimeter of participating neighborhood crime watch areas, those installed in a business watch area and signs installed on individual blocks.

Residents will be glad to know that the Department of Public Works will be installing these signs at no cost to the participating neighborhood association, business group or block club. They will be responsible though, for any sign fabrication costs that may come up in the future.

Alderman Puente, an ardent supporter of the Block Watch program, said the sign program is another tool residents can use to enhance safety in their own neighborhood. “Everyone wants their block and neighborhood to be safe, and this new crime watch sign program will let everyone know that there are eyes and ears monitoring what’s going on,” Alderman Puente said of the new ordinance.

Any neighborhood association, business or block watch group interested in participation in the crime watch sign program should apply to the police department through the community liaison officer at the nearest district police station.

Growing Power celebrates 20th anniversary

In December Growing Power celebrated its 20th anniversary as an organization that is recognized globally for its innovative strategies that have helped communities create sustainable food systems that are equitable and ecologically sound.

Alderman Puente sponsored a commendatory resolution from the Common Council recognizing Growing Power on its anniversary. “Will Allen has used hard work, genius, education, and engagement strategies to place Growing Power at the top in helping communities create healthy, safe and affordable food,” Alderman Puente said.



“Milwaukee and the 9th District are very proud and appreciative of Growing Power, and we look forward to seeing what the next few decades will bring for this outstanding organization,” said Ald. Puente.

Development Round Up



Super Steel celebrates 90th anniversary

Last fall Alderman Puente joined Mayor Barrett in presenting Super Steel with a city proclamation honoring the manufacturer on its 90th anniversary of doing business in the city. Pictured also are (left to right): Mr. Dirk Smith, Super Steel president and CEO; Mr. Paul Luber, Super Steel chairman of the board; and Super Steel owner, Mr. Fred Luber. The company is located at 7900 W. Tower Ave.

The Coca-Cola Company announced that it will invest \$30 million in its facility at 11800 W. Brown Deer Rd. This will be the 5th North American production site for its Smartwater bottled water. They are also planning to expand the warehouse. This investment will result in 16 new full-time jobs. Construction is expected to be completed in April.

Steel Rule Die Masters, Inc. and **Medical Presses, Inc.** are renovating the old United Tool building at 8219 W. Bradley Rd. After renovations, they plan to move into the building in January. Both companies, which have a total of 14 employees are moving from Menomonee Falls. Steel Rule makes cutting dies for various industries. Medical Presses builds machines that create dies that can be used in sterile environments to cut skin grafts, heart valves, collagen, and other medical items.

Steve Iram and Jim Gannon purchased **Pereles Bros., Inc.**, 5840 N. 60th St. Pereles is a plastic injection molding company. The new owners plan to build on the reputation of the 88-year old company and expect to have 20-30% growth in revenue over the next 2-3 years.

Xymox Technologies, 9099 W. Dean Rd. application for a loan from the Milwaukee Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) for purchase of the building and additional equipment was approved. Xymox is a custom designer and manufacturer of membrane switches, printed electronics, and interface technologies. Their products are sold to leading original equipment manufacturers in the medical, appliance, gasoline dispensing, high-end industrial controls, instrumentation, and consumer electronics markets. If you've ever used a dishwasher, oven, or pumped gas, you probably have seen some of these products in action.

A recruiting and placement agency for entry level to executive staff, **WFA Staffing Group**, 9001 N. 76th St., has had a 57% growth rate since 2010. Established in 1991, they work on direct hire, contract, or a contract-to-direct basis for small to medium size companies.

Miller Bakery, who recently purchased the property at 8313 N. Steven Rd., is planning to add a 13,000 square foot addition to expand production capacity of its Pretzilla line.

Founded in 1917. **Perlick Corp.**, 8300 W. Good Hope Rd., has made beer tap dispensing systems, refrigerated cabinets, glass washers, and other bar equipment for decades. They have begun selling equipment that dispenses wine from a keg by pulling a tap, something that is common for beer, but not wine. The move to wine taps is in response to a growing numbers of high-quality vintages being sold in kegs. This efficiency gives establishments more flexibility to offer high-quality wines at more affordable prices as it not only eliminates uncorking a bottle to pour the liquid into a glass, it drastically reduces the number so unopened bottles.

FREE Landlord Training Program

For more information visit:
www.milwaukee.gov/landlordtraining

To register contact the DNS
Program Assistant Jeanne Hagner
jhagne@milwaukee.gov or 286-2954.



Granville BID has busy inaugural year

The Granville BID in its first year has been extremely busy and active in the community. As part of working toward the enhancement of the community’s image through safety and beautification the BID donated eight bicycles and carriers to the Milwaukee Police Department. The bicycles are used to patrol portions of Police District 4.

The BID held Granville Manufacturing Appreciation Days, October 1-3, 2013. The event included several interactive sessions such as bringing MATC to the area and a session focusing on the women in Granville manufacturing. To cap things off, on October 3rd, there was an Employee Appreciation Party held at Marquette Electronics Park featuring free food, games and contests, scare crow making, and a chance to get to know others who work on the area.



Employees who work at businesses in the Granville Business Improvement District make scare crows during an Employee Appreciation Party held at Marquette Electronics Park in October 2013.

Alexian Village garners national recognition

U.S. News & World Report has awarded a 5-Star rating to **Alexian Village Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation Center**, 9255 N. 76th St., based on “health inspections, nurse staffing, and quality of care.” This facility features 108 beds for short term and long term care including physical, occupational, and speech therapies, Alzheimer’s disease and related dementia, and Horizon Home Care Hospice.

The Alexian Village complex is a “continuing care” retirement community offering independent apartments, assisted living, rehabilitative service, skilled nursing, and adult day care services.

Keep Up to Date with the Milwaukee Youth Council

Facebook
facebook.com/mkeyouthcouncil

Twitter
[@mkeyouthcouncil](https://twitter.com/mkeyouthcouncil)

www.milwaukee.gov/YouthCouncil





Alderman
Robert W. Puente
9th District

SPRING 2014

Your New Police Captain



Captain Victor Beecher is the new commander for the Milwaukee Police Department's 4th District. His experience includes more than 20 years of service to the Milwaukee Police Department, where he began his law enforcement career as a patrol officer in Milwaukee's District Three. Upon his promotion to the rank of Detective, he worked the next 10 years in MPD's Criminal Investigation Bureau, the Sexual Assault Unit, and

the Vice Control Division's Major Case Unit. After he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant of Detectives, Captain Beecher supervised a number of units and was assigned to be the Early Shift Commander of the Criminal Investigation Bureau. Captain Beecher is a graduate of Northwestern University's Staff and Command School, the Drug Enforcement Administration's Drug Unit Commander's Academy, and is a State of Wisconsin certified law enforcement instructor in several law enforcement topics.

Earn & Learn Summer Youth Internship Coming Soon!

earn & learn

Online applications for the city's 2014 Earn & Learn Summer Youth Internship Program (SYIP) are now available. Applicants who are selected for the 114 city government internships will work 20 hours a week for eight weeks beginning June 20, 2014 and will earn \$8.25 per hour. **To learn more or apply for an internship, visit city.milwaukee.gov/SYIP. The deadline for SYIP application and submitting the transcripts is April 4, 2014.**



City Hall, Room 205
200 E. Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202

PRSRD STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
MILWAUKEE WI
PERMIT NO 4678

Winter Garbage Cart Collection

Winter garbage and recycling schedules are in effect until April 4, 2014. Effective January 27, 2014 residents with curb-side garbage pick-up must place their garbage carts at the curb by 7:00 a.m. on collection day just as they do in spring, summer, and fall. Residents with alley garbage pick-up are not affected by this change. Recycling collection does not change – this new program applies to garbage carts only.

For more information on your next garbage and recycling collection days, go to www.city.milwaukee.gov/mpw or call 286-CITY.

There is **NO** garbage or recycling collection on the following city holidays:

- **Good Friday**
April 18, 2014
- **Memorial Day & Furlough Day**
Friday & Monday – May 23 & 26, 2014
- **Independence Day & Furlough Day**
Thursday & Friday – July 3 & 4, 2014
- **Labor Day & Furlough Day**
Friday & Monday – August 29 & September 1, 2014
- **Thanksgiving**
Thursday & Friday – November 27 & 28, 2014
- **Christmas Eve & Day**
Wednesday & Thursday – December 24 & 25
- **New Year's Eve & Day**
Wednesday & Thursday – December 31, 2014 & January 1, 2015

Please Shovel Your Sidewalk – It's The Law

Remember that residential and commercial property owners and occupants are required to clear sidewalks abutting their property of snow or ice **within 24 hours of a storm**. If violations are reported, a 24-hour notice is issued. If the sidewalks still are not cleared, a sanitation crew will clear a path and put the charge on the property tax bill. **Note: the city does not plow alleys.**

If you have elderly or disabled neighbors who need help with snow shoveling, please help them out when you can.

And make our city safer by shoveling out the fire hydrants near your home. "Adopting" a fire hydrant will ensure maximum visibility for firefighters in the event of an emergency.

New Maximum Height for Grass and Weeds

On July 23, 2013, the Common Council adopted an ordinance sponsored by Alderman Puente that shortens the maximum allowed height of grass and weeds in yards and vacant lots from nine inches to seven inches.

The ordinance change also increases the penalties for those who fall out of compliance with the grass and weeds height requirement – an attempt to address complaints about blighted and vacant properties in the city.

The Department of Public Works has received media coverage about the height change, and has also been conducting a public information campaign to alert property owners, including a DPW garbage cart tag with details about the change.

Questions about the ordinance change can be directed to 286-CITY(2489).