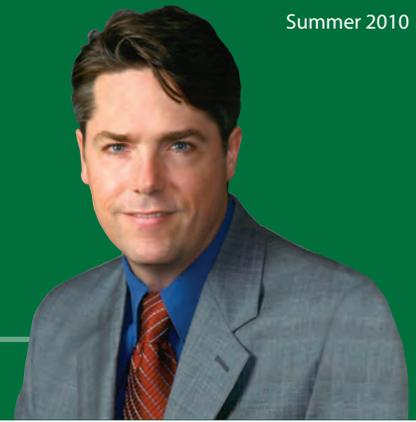


Michael Murphy

10th District Alderman

City Hall • (414) 286-3763 • mmurph@milwaukee.gov • www.milwaukee.gov/district10



Dear 10th District Residents:

I have said it more than once, but I believe communication between legislators and their constituents is truly the key to good government. That is why I try to host as many neighborhood meetings as possible and keep you informed through my newsletter publication. Inside, you will find information that I often get asked about such as the 2010 budget, neighborhood development efforts, environmental and public safety initiatives and what I am doing to address the foreclosure crisis. I hope you find the articles informative and useful.

Finally, I look forward to stopping by the many neighborhood block parties this summer in the 10th district not only for the excellent food, but the opportunity to meet with as many of you as possible. The 10th District is fortunate to have so many engaged citizens who are committed to making Milwaukee a great city. Thank you for caring so much.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Murphy

Alderman, 10th District



Celebrating Arbor Day!

Alderman Murphy celebrated the **100th anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America** at the Boy Scout Service Center at 330 S. 84th St. The Arbor Day event concluded with the group planting the final five trees of a **100-tree planting** to celebrate the 100 years of service the Boy Scouts have provided.

New Summerfest Lease Deal Approved

The Common Council has approved a new 20-year lease extension for Summerfest that not only ensures annual payments to the City of Milwaukee for public safety services rendered but also paves the way for a large-scale renovation of the south end of the Henry Maier Festival Grounds, said Alderman Murphy, who participated in negotiating the new deal.

Alderman Murphy said the extension added 10 years to the former lease negotiation and gives Summerfest the long-term assurance it sought before moving ahead with a large-scale renovation totaling up to \$20 million on 20 acres of the lakefront festival grounds. As part of the extension agreement, the city will collect a six-figure fee for the police and fire services provided for the 11-day festival.

Alderman Murphy helped negotiate the fire services fee as part of the city's 2009 budget process. "After reviewing the lease and determining the significant cost of providing police and fire services, I felt strongly that Milwaukee World Festivals could pay more for those costs," Alderman Murphy said.

Milwaukee World Festivals Inc. will add the fee to the annual rent it pays the city — roughly \$1.2 million in 2009 and increasing 3% annually.

The lease extension sets up a transition for Summerfest to host more events, Alderman Murphy said. "We look forward to the forthcoming large-scale upgrade and renovation at the south end, which will allow Summerfest to host events and attractions throughout the year," he said.

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.

For application information, or to see if you qualify, please go to www.mkedcd.org/housing/nidc/EmergencyLoan.html for more details.

Brutal 2010 Budget

The 2010 budget adopted by the Common Council on November 6, 2009 has been called by many the most difficult budget in the city's history, with complex choices looming on all fronts. Alderman Murphy, chair of the Finance and Personnel Committee, said a perfect storm of major challenges drove the budget process:

- The city was required to make a **\$49 million** contribution to the city pension fund; a massive payment necessitated by dramatic declines in the stock market during 2008. This was the first time in many years that the city had to make an employer's contribution.
- The State of Wisconsin reduced shared revenue payments to Milwaukee by \$2.6 million and increased tipping fees paid by the city for garbage by \$2 million. These state budget changes represented a **\$4.6 million** negative impact on the city's budget. In fact, Alderman Murphy explains that the shared revenue payments received by Milwaukee have been frozen for more than 12 years. According to the city's budget office, the inflation-adjusted decline in payments received since 2003 is equal to a revenue loss of just under **\$60 million!**
- The assessed value of city real estate declined by 4.29%--the first decline in overall assessed value in **several decades**. This negatively impacted city finances because such a **decline causes the property tax rate to increase** even if city spending remains the same.
- The city lost **\$2.1 million** in interest income on short term investments because of low interest rates.

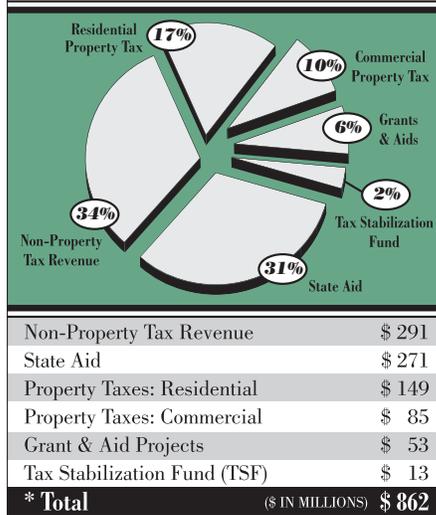
Considering the above, the Common Council had to make drastic cuts to the city's operating expenses to produce a balanced budget and keep fees and property tax increases to a minimum. Consequently, the city's budget was cut by 5.2% (\$31 million) and 362 full-time-equivalent (FTE) city positions were eliminated. In addition, several of the city's largest unions agreed to wage and benefit concessions, a pay freeze was instituted for all management employees and most general employees (including all elected officials) will be required to take four unpaid furlough days in 2010. These furloughs amount to a pay cut for virtually all employees.

The mayor announced in April that the city closed the books on 2009 with a budget surplus. What this means is that the Tax Stabilization Fund (TSF) we use to help budget for the city without dramatically increasing taxes had an estimated balance of nearly \$25.5 million. After accounts were settled, however, it appears the fund may reach \$33 million. Considered a surplus, this extra funding in the TSF means that we have more adequately contributed to and secured the fund, helping to keep our bond rating from dropping. Prudent choices in budgeting allowed us to reinvest in the fund and secure our credit rating; protecting the city from other forms of financial weakening.

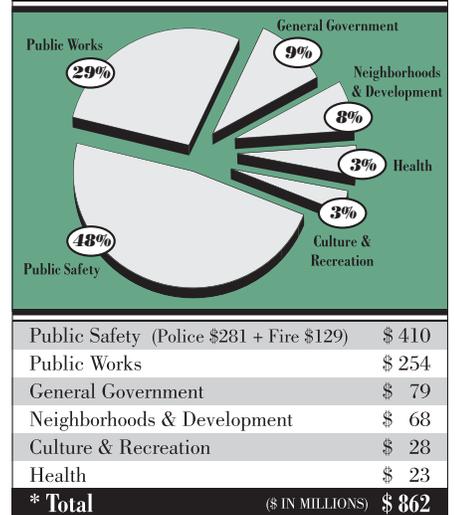
According to the Comptroller's 2008 Comparative Revenue and Expenditure Report, Milwaukee's per capita total local revenues are 49% less than the average of 10 comparable cities analyzed (including Milwaukee). In other words, because the city must rely only on revenue from property taxes (unlike other cities that can use local sales taxes and income taxes from a broader base), Milwaukee only receives half the local revenues of most other cities in the Comptroller's analysis.

Alderman Murphy said the city, along with most businesses and families, is facing challenging economic times. Nevertheless, he noted the citizens of Milwaukee continue to expect basic city services such as police and fire protection, sanitation services and the operation and maintenance of city infrastructure. "Needless to say, maintaining city services and infrastructure in difficult economic times is a major challenge that will continue for the next few years," he said.

2010 Budget Sources of City Revenue*



City Services Provided by this Revenue*



*Excludes G.O. debt service paid by the City for MPS purposes.

Alderman Murphy Asked, and City Workers Responded

Last fall, as the Mayor and Common Council headed into the 2010 budget process, all city employees received an email from Alderman Murphy asking for suggestion on how the city might reduce costs. The move was unprecedented.

Alderman Murphy wrote: "As you know, the City of Milwaukee is facing budgetary challenges that are nearly unprecedented in our 164-year history...Revenue shortfalls, increasing health care costs, and mandatory pension contributions have created a 'perfect storm' that will challenge the Common Council and Mayor Barrett to find costs savings wherever possible. The task will indeed be difficult, as we must carefully weigh possible cuts in services and personnel to prevent a far larger fiscal catastrophe down the line."

I am asking for **YOUR** help in indentifying possible cost savings across all levels of city government. City employees know our programs and services better than anyone, and for that reason I am asking for **YOUR** suggestions and ideas to help us trim costs and to increase efficiencies."



The response was incredible! **More than 400** anonymous submissions were received via an email address that allowed city employees to send suggestions directly to Alderman Murphy. Several of the suggestions submitted were pursued as part of the 2010 budget, resulting in major savings for city taxpayers.

"Our city employees are truly dedicated to Milwaukee's success, and I'm extremely pleased that so many of them offered their profound ideas," Alderman Murphy said.

Anyone interested in reviewing suggestions (and responses) can go to www.milwaukee.gov/district10/budgetanswers for more details.

City Continues to Fight Foreclosures

Alderman Murphy has been active in trying to find real solutions to help stem the tide of foreclosures, which can have a substantial negative long-term effect on city neighborhoods. To this end, he has been working closely with city representatives, community partners and Common Ground of Southeastern Wisconsin, an organization that has taken a lead in educating the public about the foreclosure crisis and has taken a lead in finding constructive solutions to the problem.

If you or someone you know is facing foreclosure, the City of Milwaukee is working with several non-profit housing counseling agencies that can provide you assistance. It is important to seek help now, because the earlier you contact a certified foreclosure counselor, the more options that will be available to you. Go to www.milwaukeehousinghelp.org or call (414) 286-5610 as soon as possible to speak with a certified foreclosure counselor. All of the counselors available on the website provide service **free of charge!** In fact, you should be wary of anyone who charges a fee, as foreclosure rescue scams are on the rise.

Moreover, the City of Milwaukee has teamed up with Marquette University Law School to establish the **Milwaukee Foreclosure Mediation Program**. This program was designed to bring homeowners going through the foreclosure process together with their lender to work out a settlement that will allow the homeowner to remain in their home.

If you are interested in purchasing a foreclosed home, the city offers financial resources to help you acquire a foreclosed home and technical assistance to help renovate it. The programs are available for both homeownership and responsible rental property ownership.

Milwaukee is facing many challenges in this current economic climate, but as a community we can work together to address them. Please contact the City of Milwaukee for help!

Finally, if a foreclosed property is causing problems in your neighborhood, you can contact the following City Departments:

Department of Public Works

• (414) 286-CITY (2489)

Weeds, Tall Grass, Snow Shoveling

Department of Neighborhood Services

• (414) 286-2268

*Trash, Litter, Debris, Boards Removed,
Code Violations, No Gas, No Electric*

Milwaukee Police Department

• (414) 933-4444

*Non-Emergency,
Suspected Criminal Activity*



Mercy Housing Lakefront Project



Alderman Murphy was joined by Alderman Witkowiak in touring the **former Johnston Medical Center building** at S. 13th St. and W. Windlake Ave., where crews are constructing a permanent supportive housing facility that will become home to 91 people who were formerly homeless. The **\$13 million Mercy Housing Lakefront project** is made possible through support from city, county, state and federal sources and has been named a “catalytic project” by the Milwaukee Department of City Development. The project has also received funds from the city’s Housing Trust Fund, which was created with the help of Alderman Murphy. City leaders believe the Johnston Center rehabilitation will attract more businesses and services to the prominent six-corner area. Additionally, Alderman Murphy said it will meet the city’s critical need for permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless individuals.

Fund Will Help Preserve Housing Stock

The Common Council has approved the establishment of a permanent funding source dedicated to pay for the restoration and preservation of vacant residential properties in the city’s housing inventory primarily acquired because of foreclosure for non-payment of property taxes.

The **Housing Infrastructure Preservation Fund** will make it easier for the Department of City Development (DCD) to ensure the restoration and eventual sale of neighborhood residential properties of four or fewer units that have been classified as suitable for immediate restoration by the city, the Housing Authority (HACM), the Redevelopment Authority (RACM), or another public entity.

“The city currently has far too many properties in its inventory that are in need of some restoration and rehab work to prepare them for sale, but there are no additional funds available to do that work,” said Alderman Murphy.

“The Housing Infrastructure Preservation Fund can now provide that critical, dedicated funding to help turn these properties around, thereby preserving the city’s tax base, avoiding demolitions and increasing the city’s residential housing stock,” he said.

Although the fund will be administered by DCD, the amount allocated to the fund will be part of the annual city budget adopted by the Common Council. Funding sources shall include the tax levy, general obligation borrowing, net proceeds from sales of restoration properties, amounts appropriated by law and transferred to the fund by the comptroller, and other appropriations of the Common Council made from time to time.

NOTE: *The preservation fund IS NOT for private foreclosures or for public participation – it will be used by the city (DCD) for residential properties in the city’s housing inventory.*

Recent Developments



Alderman Murphy was joined by Mayor Tom Barrett, Council President Willie L. Hines, Jr., and Commissioner Jeff Mantes of the Department of Public Works late last year during the **Hawley Rd. bridge opening and ribbon cutting ceremony**. Local area business owners, residents, and other dignitaries also attended the ceremony.

W. Highland Blvd. Bridge: Open Again!

The nearly 100-year-old W. Highland Blvd. bridge over the Canadian Pacific Railroad right-of-way near W. Martin Dr. has been open for more than four months, and its **reconstruction turned out to be a successful city project**, Alderman Murphy said.

The bridge was closed to traffic for reconstruction from September 2008 through the end of October 2009. When completed, **the project was under budget and three weeks before the scheduled completion date**, allowing the bridge to officially open to traffic on October 28, 2009.

The new bridge has two traffic lanes and one bike lane in each direction with a median on the bridge. The bridge also has 7' wide sidewalks on both sides. The concrete stained brick form liner on the parapet, concrete pilasters with varying heights and with cast stone cap stones, and stained concrete piers and abutments give the new bridge an aesthetically pleasing appearance to compliment the brick homes and businesses in the area. The new bridge incorporates enhanced engineering and construction technology and will serve the neighborhood and the entire city for years to come.



Hank Aaron State Trail Extension to Open

Alderman Murphy is pleased to announce the start of construction on a four-mile westward extension of the Hank Aaron State Trail that will include a new bicycle/pedestrian bridge over Hawley Rd.

The alderman, a strong supporter of the trail since its inception, has been working closely with the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the state Department of Transportation to help ensure the **westward extension of the trail from Miller Park to N. 94th Pl.** this year. However, Alderman Murphy said the Zoo Interchange project will require that some adjustments be made along the way.

“Construction of the trail on the east end will make a connection to the existing trail and the valley passage at 37th and Pierce which is also under construction this summer,” Alderman Murphy said.

“The trail development connection with the Oak Leaf Trail at Underwood Creek will occur after the Zoo Interchange work is completed, because five overpasses will need to be demolished and reconstructed directly over the trail corridor. In the mean time, an on-street route will be designated on the south boundary of the trail from 94th Pl. to the Oak Leaf Trail via Schlinger Ave., the tunnel near Madison Elementary School, and W. Washington St.”

In the fall of 2006, the DNR purchased the former Milwaukee Road corridor from Miller Park to 124th and W. Blue Mound Rd. for the future development of an extension to the Hank Aaron State Trail. The existing trail starts at Lakeshore State Park next to Discovery World, goes through the Historic Third Ward and the Menomonee Valley to Miller Park.

Starting in July, construction will begin on the trail extension and a new bicycle/pedestrian bridge over Hawley Rd. The bridge will provide a safer crossing of the roadway, which has high volume traffic and challenging visibility. Federal regulations require a 17' 3" clearance of the roadway, so the bridge may seem quite large initially. The retaining walls for the bridge will be concrete poured with special forms to resemble stone blocks (surfaces will receive a graffiti proof covering). In the spring, the DNR will be planting trees and shrubs to provide screening along the ramp way, which elevates at a 5% grade to provide access to the bridge.

Alderman Murphy said “The Hank Aaron State Trail Will Take You There” was a phrase used by the Friends of Hank Aaron State Trail on a recent Run/Walk T-shirt because the trail and the new extension will ultimately take you to some of the area’s greatest destinations.

“Via the Trail you are able to access Lakeshore State Park at the lakefront, the Milwaukee Art Museum, Discovery World, Summerfest, the Historic Third Ward, the Harley-Davidson Museum, Potawatomi Bingo Casino, the Marquette soccer fields, Miller Park, the historic Ward Theatre on the grounds of the National Soldiers Home, State Fair Park, the Pettit National Ice Center, and in future years the Milwaukee County Zoo and a connection with the Oak Leaf Trail near the Milwaukee/Waukesha county lines,” he said.

Alderman Murphy helped to bring the Department of Transportation into the extension development, and with their involvement, trail planning and engineering has been placed on a fast track giving residents an additional four miles of trail to use by year’s end.

This year also marks the 11th anniversary of the Hank Aaron State Trail 5K Run/Walk on Saturday August 14, 2010. More information can be found at www.hankaaronstatetrail.org.

“The Hank Aaron State Trail Will Take You There”

Menomonee River

Alderman Murphy took part in the announcement of a **\$1.1 million grant** from the **President's Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI)**. The GLRI, combined with additional funding and resources from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) allows for the removal of a steep concrete channel in the Menomonee River and will help allow game fish from Lake Michigan to travel north into the Menomonee River.



Stimulus Funds: Fixing Milwaukee Infrastructure

Federal dollars from the **American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)** stimulus package have been used to make much needed immediate infrastructure improvements in Milwaukee, Alderman Murphy said.

Alderman Murphy, chair of the Common Council's Finance and Personnel Committee and a member of the city's Capital Improvements Committee, said the dire condition of the City of Milwaukee streets, bridges, and infrastructure will be aided greatly by the ARRA funds. "This initial infusion of stimulus funding for road repair (channeled through the state Department of Transportation) is addressing work that is several years overdue. Indeed, the funding has been vital given our major budget challenges," the alderman said.

The ARRA funds are being used not only to fix roads and bridges, but also to purchase everything from traffic and streetlight equipment, to signage and construction equipment.

Alderman Murphy said a second round of federal stimulus awards headed for the city should be announced soon. The ARRA funding will allow the city's Department of Public Works to complete additional street reconstruction projects.

Uptown Crossing TIN

The **Uptown Crossing Targeted Investment Neighborhood (TIN)** is offering low interest and forgivable loan opportunities for eligible homeowners and investor owners in the area bounded by N. 53rd St. to N. 60th St., from Lisbon Ave. to North Ave.

Alderman Murphy said the TIN program is a neighborhood revitalization strategy in which the City of Milwaukee, working with a neighborhood community partner (in this case, the Sherman Park Community Association), focuses resources in a relatively small area (6 to 12 city blocks) in an effort to stabilize and increase owner-occupancy, strengthen property values and improve the physical appearance of a neighborhood.

The goal of the program is to reverse trends of disinvestment by improving the physical and social infrastructure of a neighborhood and by improving its desirability as a place to live, work and invest. City departments such as Public Works and the Police Department also work closely with the neighborhood partners to implement the revitalization plan.

A TIN usually requires three years of intensive activity, including enhanced property rehabilitation loans (for owner-occupants and for investor-owners), promotion of home ownership, blight removal, intensive code enforcement, and public improvements where appropriate. A pool of funds is designated for these activities, but there is also a concerted effort to maximize private investment and coordinate the city's spending with other forms of public investment.

In the Uptown Crossing TIN, the Home Rehab program offers owner occupants a combination

Targeted Investment Neighborhood: Uptown Crossing



of low interest and forgivable loans for home improvements. Deferred Payment Loans (DPL) are also available to low income senior homeowners. DPL repayments are made when the property is sold, refinanced or no longer serves as the primary residence. Priorities of the program include exterior appearance, code repairs and lead paint abatement. Additional improvements can include, but are not limited to, weatherization and energy conservation, window replacement, siding, electrical, heating and plumbing updates. After the work is completed, homeowners are expected to keep their property code compliant.

Visit www.mkedcd.org/housing/nidc for more details or for more information, please call Wendy Washington at 444-9803.

Marquette Foreclosure Mediation Program

The City of Milwaukee-in partnership with the state's Office of the Attorney General and Marquette University law School-has implemented the Milwaukee Foreclosure Mediation Program (MFMP) which provides mediation between lenders and residential borrowers facing foreclosure.

Alderman Murphy said the Common Council approved \$100,000 in funding early in 2009 for the program. These funds were on top of the \$310,000 from the proceeds of a successful state lawsuit against Countrywide Financial Corp.

The MFMP, located at the Milwaukee County Courthouse, is a voluntary, court-based independent mediation option for lenders and borrowers. The program is meant to alleviate the current backlog of foreclosure cases in the county court system by offering the option of mediation to residential homeowners who reside in owner-occupied properties. Borrowers will be screened to ensure there is a successful outcome of the mediation process. According to the law school, in most cases, successful mediation will serve as a venue to work out new loan terms, a short sale, or other solutions that are mutually agreeable, and that execute a final agreement between the parties.

Alderman Murphy said he is hopeful that the program will work as intended for the benefit of Milwaukee. "If it works," he says, "the program will enable us to preserve housing assets and retain home ownership where feasible, to return steady mortgage payments to lenders, and to somewhat relieve the impact on our court system."

Interested parties should call (414) 288-4040 to begin the mediation process.



Community Meet and Greet

Alderman Murphy spoke to attendees at the **Auer community meet and greet event** in the Kleiger Auditorium at Wheaton Franciscan – St. Joseph Hospital, 5000 W. Chambers St., in April 2010.

Enderis Park Healthy Neighborhoods

Three projects are currently under way thanks in large part to the work of the Enderis Park Neighborhood Association community organizer Bruce Cameron. The projects will bring neighborhood signs into the Alameda Place, Lenox Heights and Enderis East neighborhoods, bolstering neighborhood identity and complementing the Enderis park gateway marker. A third project is transforming a former brownfield at 6204 W. Appleton into a neighborhood pocket park.

City Recycling and Cost Savings



The city's **Recycling Task Force** is considering a move to a single-stream form of recycling. In this model, all recyclables are deposited together in the bin and sorted later. This method can save on gas and energy costs related to the trucks and their mode of pick-up.

However, until then, as part of the 2010 Milwaukee budget the Common Council voted to change recycling pick-up schedules. As you have already noticed, recycling pick up now takes place once every three weeks instead of the previous 30-31 days. This new set schedule should help residents recycle more easily.

Additionally, this year the state increased its tipping fees for garbage. Thus, as garbage collection prices continue to rise, the new recycling schedule can help defray those costs.

60th & Burleigh Intersection to Undergo Major Changes

Work will begin later this year to make significant traffic and pedestrian safety improvements to the intersection of W. Burleigh St., W. Roosevelt Dr., and N. 60th St., Alderman Murphy said.

The work, which will be part of the federal **2010 Highway Safety Improvement Program**, was moved forward by Alderman Murphy and the Department of Public Works (DPW) after neighbors raised strong concerns about speeding, as well as concerns about traffic and pedestrian safety at the busy intersection.

Alderman Murphy said the work – expected to begin in September 2010 – will include geometric modifications and traffic control improvements. "Crews will be constructing traffic islands, installing new traffic signals, and painting detailed pavement markings and crosswalks to better control traffic, to slow traffic, and to afford greater safety for pedestrians," he said.

The estimated total cost of the project is \$65,331, with 90% – roughly \$58,800 – funded by the state Department of Transportation. The local share – \$6,533 – will be paid by DPW.



Alderman Murphy met with **Joseph Blakeman of DPW Infrastructure Services** and **Jim Zonoozi, a Norwood Neighborhood Leader**, to discuss significant traffic and pedestrian safety improvements to the intersection of W. Burleigh St., W. Roosevelt Dr., and N. 60th St.



Alderman Murphy joined residents and neighbors at the **beautification project at the 53rd Street Community School**. Members from various neighborhood groups were present to help plant and clean, including a representative from Police District 7. **Lowes, Select Milwaukee, Healthy Neighborhoods and the Sherman Park Community Association** also donated bushes and plants to beautify the baseball diamond.

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 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
- 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 at 286-2074.



Meet the new Police District 3 captain, Michael Brunson. Captain Brunson joined the police department in 1995 and has been consistently promoted to serve our community. Captain Brunson is committed to working collectively with community and faith based organizations and all community stakeholders to help reduce crime, fear and disorder in Police District 3.

Housing Trust Fund Awards Include Homeless Vets, Youthbuild Program



On March 2, the Common Council unanimously approved \$818,395 in funds for five projects to create 122 units of affordable housing for very low-income, disabled and homeless Milwaukee residents that were recommended for approval by the **Milwaukee Housing Trust Fund (HTF) Advisory Board**.

Alderman Murphy, who chairs the advisory board, said the projects include a \$168,395 grant to the **Center for Veterans Issues, Ltd.** to construct 52 units of supportive rental housing for homeless and mentally ill veterans at N. 35th and W. Wisconsin and a \$105,000 grant to the **Northcott Neighborhood House, Inc.** for handicapped accessible single-family housing. The latter project will include construction work by **Youth-build**, a **Fresh Start** participant for at-risk youth who are given a chance to turn their lives around through hands-on construction experience and instruction in job and life skills.

All told, the projects will leverage an investment of more than \$25.77 million in construction work, helping low-income and homeless residents (including many families and children) while also bringing a helpful boost to Milwaukee's economy.

"The economy is showing signs of improvement, but the recovery and positive news doesn't reach everyone in our community," said Alderman Murphy. "These are still very difficult times, and I'm pleased that the Common Council has again agreed to fund excellent projects that will help residents who have critical housing needs, provide much-needed job opportunities and training, and provide additional affordable housing that Milwaukee needs."

This year, a total of 14 proposals requested more than \$3.1 million in HTF funding. If fully funded, all 14 projects would have leveraged approximately \$47.87 million, Ald. Murphy said.

Other 2010 HTF awards:

- \$150,000 – Heartland Housing, Inc., 2500 W. Fond du Lac Ave. (supportive rental housing for very low-income).
- \$375,000 – Our Space, Inc. – Empowerment Village, 525 W. Lincoln Ave. (one bedroom apartments for mentally ill renters).
- \$20,000 – Layton Boulevard West Neighbors (purchase and rehab of foreclosed property, to help low-income family).

All of the projects were reviewed and approved by the Common Council's Zoning, Neighborhoods & Development Committee.

New Businesses Now Open on West Side

Alderman Murphy extends a warm welcome to the following new 10th District west side businesses:

Blue's Egg Restaurant, 317 N. 76th St.

The former Heinemann's restaurant (just south of W. Blue Mound Rd.) will be serving breakfast and lunch. It is owned by the owners of popular Maxie's Southern Comfort restaurant.

Brewski's Steak House, 6024 W. Blue Mound Rd.

Kevin Nugent and his business partner, Brian Young – the owners of Brewski's Sports Club on the west side – are opening their high-end, smoke-free steak house somewhat in the mold of Coerper's 5 O'Clock Club on State St. It just so happens that Brewski's chef was a longtime chef at Coerper's.

Caradaro Club, 5010 W. Vliet St.

Founded in 1945, Caradaro Club says it was the first registered pizza parlor in Wisconsin. The restaurant's other, original location is located on S. 70th St. in West Allis.

Dino's Sports Bar & Grill, 5018 W. State St.

Gregg and Dean Pawelski have opened Dino's Sports Bar & Grill, which was formerly State Street Retreat.

La Fuente Restaurant, 9155 W. Blue Mound Rd.

The longtime location of Frank Monreal's El Matador (and Kiko's Lounge and Carey's Sports Pub) is now La Fuente and operated by Jose Zarate, the owner of the popular south side restaurant of the same name.

Swick Technologies, 320 N. 77th St.

Swick Technologies is an on-demand, multifaceted information technologies firm that specializes in serving businesses.



Blue's Egg Restaurant

Alderman Murphy met with neighbors inside the "under construction" Blue's Egg restaurant near N. 76th and W. Blue Mound Rd. this spring to discuss any issues or concerns. He also is pictured with Blue's Egg owner Dan Sidner (left) and the executive chef and partner in the restaurant, Joe Muench. The restaurant is expected to open in July 2010.



City Recycling and Cost Savings



The city's **Recycling Task Force** is considering a move to a single-stream form of recycling. In this model, all recyclables are deposited together in the bin and sorted later. This method can save on gas and energy costs related to the trucks and their mode of pick-up.

However, until then, as part of the 2010 Milwaukee budget the Common Council voted to change recycling pick-up schedules. As you have already noticed, recycling pick up now takes place once every three weeks instead of the previous 30-31 days. This new set schedule should help residents recycle more easily.

Additionally, this year the state increased its tipping fees for garbage. Thus, as garbage collection prices continue to rise, the new recycling schedule can help defray those costs.

Upgrades Come to Martin Drive

The 2010 Martin Drive "Book Ends" Healthy Neighborhoods Project is bringing improvements throughout the Martin Drive Healthy Neighborhood.

Two "anchor" landscape projects will significantly enhance the areas of N. 37th and W. McKinley Blvd. and N. 47th and W. Juneau. Also, the community garden at N. 47th and W. Vliet will get some upgrades, as residents will have their doorstep planters refreshed, and tree lawns will be planted, Alderman Murphy said.

The Martin Drive Healthy Neighborhoods project has received financial support from the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewage District and The Harley-Davidson Foundation. "Without the generosity of MMSD and the Harley-Davidson Foundation, this project would not have been able to achieve as big of an impact on the Martin Drive neighborhood," Alderman Murphy said.

The Department of Public Works (Sanitation) also deserves thanks for collaboration and consultation on the curb and gutter work on McKinley Blvd., he said.



Michael Murphy

10th District Alderman

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Visit me on the web at:
www.milwaukee.gov/district10

E-mail me at:
mmurph@milwaukee.gov



Milwaukee Arts Board - Grant Awards

Alderman Murphy joined 10th District resident Chris Flieller and Julie Swenson of Renaissance Theaterworks at the Milwaukee Arts Board grant awards reception hosted by Chris and his wife Jane at the In Tandem Theatre. **The Arts Board distributed grants totaling \$177,000 to various arts groups and programs throughout the city.** "This year's grant recipients represent the heart and soul of Milwaukee's diverse and talent-rich arts community," Alderman Murphy said.

Alderman Murphy

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

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United Negro College Fund



Alderman Murphy joined (from left) Aldermen Bob Bauman, Nik Kovac, Ashanti Hamilton and Willie Wade at the kickoff for the **United Negro College Fund's Walk for Education** event at City Hall. The event celebrated its 25th year in 2009 and the walk helps support the UNCF.

"The United Negro College Fund is critically important in Milwaukee because we have one of the highest percentages of families at or below the poverty line, but we cannot let that keep students from dreaming of going to college," Alderman Murphy said. "The UNCF can help make those dreams come true."



The Pettit National Ice Center – Olympic Excellence, Community Well-Being

The Pettit National Ice Center was proud to be the training home for seven of the US Olympic long track speedskaters who competed in the recent 2010 Olympic Winter Games in Vancouver. Four of the men earned medals, led by Shani Davis with individual gold and silver. Jonathan Kuck earned a silver and then finished 2nd in the World All Around Championship after the Games. The two women finished in the top ten in their events, leading the US team.

While Olympians trained, the Milwaukee community was inspired to skate in almost record numbers at the Pettit Center, including over 10,200 skaters on the Olympic Oval during the winter holidays. Many continued to participate in Learn-to-Skate programs at all levels (and ages!). In early October, the Pettit Center will host the American Cup I Short Track World Cup Qualifier, an ideal opportunity to see Olympic short track racers who continue to compete. Three weeks later they will have the long track competitors on the Olympic Oval for their World Cup Qualifier.

Alderman Murphy is a strong supporter of the center. "The Pettit," he says, "is a pillar for our district and a great community resource for everyone to enjoy. I encourage residents to take full advantage of it!"

As the weather gets warmer, do not forget about the Pettit National Ice Center located at 500 S. 84th St. During the summer, the Pettit Center's camps are the ideal place for youngsters to be active and cool. Please check www.thepettit.com for programs and activities for all ages and abilities as well as for public skating times which vary throughout the day. Enjoy the fun and healthy exercise of ice skating, playing hockey, or running on our track. You may even see one of our Olympians while you are here!