For Immediate Release:               Contact: Alex Runner
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Common Council President Willie L. Hines, Jr. and Alderman Robert J. Bauman, chair of the Public Works Committee, praised today’s announcement that Wisconsin has been awarded more than $800 million to institute and upgrade passenger rail between Milwaukee and Madison, as well as from Milwaukee to Chicago.

“This is an historic investment in transportation,” said Hines and Bauman. “Governor Jim Doyle clearly put the State of Wisconsin in the best position to earn this federal funding. In addition, President Obama demonstrated considerable leadership in strategically improving transportation for the region. On behalf of the citizens of Milwaukee – who stand to benefit more than anyone – we extend our sincere thanks to both of them.”

The federal funding comes in the form of an $823 million grant, which is part of the $8 billion appropriation for high speed rail development within the ARRA federal stimulus bill. Wisconsin is one of 13 rail corridors around the nation selected to receive the funding.

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