
Common Council President

15th District Alderman



Willie L. Hines, Jr.
City of Milwaukee Common Council

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Milwaukee and Waukesha Council Members Work Toward Regionalism

In a meeting that went beyond sound bytes and media-driven mischaracterizations, City of Milwaukee Common Council President Hines and Alderman Robert Bauman, chair of Public Works, sat down with City of Waukesha Council President Paul Ybarra, Alderwoman Joan L. Francoeur and Alderman Rick Tortomasi in an attempt to make regionalism a reality in southeastern Wisconsin.

The purpose of the meeting was not to secretly negotiate policy agreements. Rather, it was to cut through the political rhetoric and insert some humanity into the Milwaukee-Waukesha conversation. The discussion revolved primarily around fostering a better understanding between City of Waukesha and the City of Milwaukee.

“Unfortunately, when people only discuss issues in the newspaper, it’s easy to lose sight of the fact that both Milwaukee and Waukesha are made up people who want the same things – strong neighborhoods, excellent schools and the opportunity for a good quality of life,” said Common Council President Willie L. Hines, Jr. “I was very pleased to meet with these elected representatives from the City of Waukesha. They are clearly strong advocates for the needs of their constituents, while also respecting our representation of Milwaukee constituents.”

Alderman Bauman welcomed the opportunity to meet with the City of Waukesha officials, as well.

“It was a pleasure to speak with all three representatives,” said Alderman Bauman. “I appreciate them taking time out of their busy schedules to acquaint themselves better with myself and President Hines. Meeting people face-to-face can go a long way in improving relationships and fostering a better understanding between our communities.”

President Hines said that he looks forward to meeting with Mayor Scrima, as well, and congratulating him on his election victory in person. “My hope is that we can have a similar discussion about the importance of regionalism and working together,” said Hines.