
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



FOR INFORMATION CALL

July 18, 2011

Ald. Bob Donovan
(414) 708-2096

Donovan Calls for a Referendum on Downtown Streetcar

*Alderman Bob Donovan urges Mayor and Common Council to “let the people decide”:
News Conference TODAY at 1 p.m.*

Alderman Bob Donovan is proposing an amendment to the two resolutions recommended last week related to the Milwaukee Streetcar project. The amendments would modify files #110372 (approving the project) and #110324 (authorizing the expenditures of the Tax Incremental District) by adding a requirement that a referendum be held before the project begins.

The amendment would stipulate that no funds will be expended until the approval of a referendum question takes place, allowing the public to vote on the project themselves. “The many concerns of the comptroller and the utility companies as well as the questions about the route not reaching the lakefront, ridership, ongoing maintenance costs and the promised economic forecast of this project are too big for just the Council to decide,” Alderman Donovan said. “This is, to me, sufficiently controversial to warrant the input of all the citizens of Milwaukee.”

If the item is put to a vote, it would become part of the ballot for the next scheduled election, the spring primary on February 21, 2012. Alderman Donovan will host a news conference **TODAY, July 18, 2011, in the Common Council antechamber, third floor, City Hall at 1:00 p.m. to further discuss the issue. The press is invited to attend.**