Population and demographic data from the 2010 Census is beginning to flow to communities across the country.

The initial data for Milwaukee indicates that the city’s population stands at 594,833 which represents a decrease of 2,141 (-.36%) from the 2000 population of 596,974. This modest population decline compares favorably with many other Midwestern cities that saw far greater population declines. For example, Detroit’s population declined 237,493 (-25%); Chicago’s population declined 200,418 (-6.92%); Cleveland’s population declined 81,588 (-17%); St. Louis’s population declined 28,895 (-8.3%); Pittsburgh’s population declined 28,859 (-8.63%); Cincinnati’s population declined 34,342 (10.37%); and Minneapolis/St. Paul’s population declined 2,123 (-.3%).

The 2010 Census contained good news for the 4th District. The district’s population grew from 37,859 in 2000 to 38,961 in 2010 which is an increase of 2.9%. Most of the population gain occurred in the downtown area and near downtown neighborhoods. For example, the four wards that generally comprise the East Town, Westown and Third Ward neighborhoods grew 14.3%. The Third Ward grew from 490 residents in 2000 to 1,536 residents in 2010, an increase of 213%. In addition, the 4th District remains the city’s most diverse aldermanic district.

As a result of this census data, the Common Council will be making adjustments in aldermanic district boundaries to ensure that districts contain roughly similar population totals. I expect minor modifications to occur to the 4th District’s boundaries to reflect population changes in abutting districts. These new district boundaries will be in effect for the 2012 municipal elections (please go to www.milwaukee.gov/redistricting for more information on the city’s redistricting process).

This census data validates the collaborative efforts of the private sector and the city to facilitate the preservation, renewal and redevelopment of downtown Milwaukee and near downtown neighborhoods. I am very proud to have played a role in these efforts as your alderman. The 4th district continues to be a great place to live, work and play.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Bauman
4th District Alderman

Alderman Bauman helped honor Joseph and Joyce Ellwanger, winners of the 2010 Frank P. Zeidler Public Service Award, during a ceremony in the Council Chamber anteroom at City Hall. The alderman, who serves as a member of the award’s selection committee, was joined by (from left): Alderman Nik Kovac; Alderwoman Milele A. Coggs; Mr. and Mrs. Ellwanger; Common Council President Willie L. Hines, Jr.; and Attorney Arthur Heitzer, chair of the selection committee.

Alderman Bauman joined students, citizens, and volunteers during the 2010 Earth Day dedication of the Hmong American Friendship Garden at the former Esser Paint Company site. The City of Milwaukee collaborated with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the state Department of Natural Resources and UW Extension to transform the former brownfield and dumping site into a productive urban garden site.

Alderman Bauman addresses the audience during his 4th District town hall meeting at the College Court Senior Housing complex in late April. The meeting included representatives from various city departments, including the Milwaukee Police Department (crime trends and public safety), the Budget Office (proposed state budget impact on the city), the Department of Neighborhood Services and Department of City Development (the foreclosure crisis), and the Office of Environmental Sustainability (Milwaukee’s new energy efficiency program – Me2).
The Redistricting Process is Underway

T he United States conducts a census of the entire population every 10 years. This information is used for many purposes, including the distribution of federal and state revenues and the drawing of boundaries for election districts at the federal, state and local levels.

Wisconsin law requires that once the census data becomes available, local governments and the state legislature are required to adjust the boundaries of election districts so that they are as equal as possible in population. The U.S. Census Bureau is required to distribute detailed 2010 census data to the 50 states no later than April 1, 2011. This begins the local redistricting process. Counties are first required to develop a tentative supervisory district plan for their county boards. After that, municipalities are required to revise the boundaries of election wards and then their city council districts. Subsequently, school districts and the state legislature are also required to update the boundaries of their election districts.

For the City of Milwaukee, the redistricting process will be overseen by the Common Council’s Judiciary and Legislation Committee. Final election wards and aldermanic districts will be adopted by the Common Council.

Go to www.milwaukee.gov/redistricting for more details about redistricting in the City of Milwaukee.

State Budget = Losses for Milwaukee

W hile the Common Council has consistently worked to streamline city services, increase efficiencies, and keep employee costs under control (furloughs, wage freezes, etc.), the state Legislature has “rewarded” the city by slashing funding for everything from recycling and road repairs, to library services and public transit.

The following are some of the 2011-2013 state budget reductions/changes adopted by the Legislature:

- **Shared revenue** – Direct cut of $10.3 million, or -4.5%.
- **Education** – MPS anticipates it will lose more than $80 million in state aid funding for next school year.
- **Library** – Reduced state funding for the Milwaukee County Federated Library System (MCFLS) by $297,400 in FY 2012; this means a cut in funding to the Milwaukee Public Library.
- **General Transportation Aid** – Reduced by $2.5 million
- **Bicycle and Pedestrian Facility Funding** – Eliminates $2.5 million per year in state funding for bicycle/pedestrian facility projects.
- **Summer Youth Jobs Program** – Cut of $46,800 (10%) to Milwaukee’s Summer Youth Jobs program.
- **Transit Aids** – Reduction in state transit aids (10%) means a $6.8 million reduction in funding for the Milwaukee County Transit System beginning in 2012.
- **RTA** – Terminated the Southeast Wisconsin Regional Transit Authority (SERTA). The SERTA was working on the Kenosha-Racine-Milwaukee commuter rail line and was collecting a rental car transaction fee for that purpose.
- **Major Highway Projects** – Cuts to local road repair and transit, while committing taxpayers to four new major highway projects that could cost as much as $2 billion.
- **Recycling** – Milwaukee will receive about $2.1 million annually (a cut of $1.2 million from previous $3.3 million payment).
- **Earned Income Tax Credit** – Increased taxes on some Milwaukee low-income families by “modifying” the Earned Income Tax Credit.

Parking Meter Bags: Know the Rules

The downtown area and other parts of the 4th Aldermanic District are served by parking meters that occasionally are covered by cloth bags.

There are two types of cloth bags: bags marked “No Parking” and plain bags that have no markings. When a bag marked “No Parking” is covering a meter, parking is not permitted at that location regardless of the parking regulations that may generally apply to that area. When a plain bag is covering the meter, parking is permitted at that location and the meter does not need to be plugged, however, the applicable parking regulations for that location contained on any parking signs (such as two hour limits or “temporary no parking” during certain hours) still apply.

Bags are used in a variety of circumstances where temporary parking regulations are needed such as special events and construction activity.
City Budget Update

The 2011 city budget approved by the Common Council late last year lowered the tax levy by $51,255 over 2010 and trimmed the solid waste fee by $2 per year.

The 2011 tax levy means the owner of an average city home valued last year at $127,764 – and now valued this year at $123,071 – will see a $6.67 decrease in the city portion of the tax bill.

As part of the budget, the Council approved a voluntary $17.35 million payment to the pension reserve fund, meant to lessen the impact of large required pension contributions in coming years. Also, Council members approved four furlough days for most city workers, and voted to freeze their own wages (and all management and other elected officials’ wages) through April 2012.

A small increase in the storm water charge (88 cents) will allow the city to speed up its forestry maintenance, which includes pruning the city’s vast stock of trees, valued by the Department of Public Works at more than $100 million.

In addition, the 2011 budget also marks the launch of long-term plans for important city services:
- In response to the recent flooding and sewage overflows, the city is preparing a pilot program which will allow public funding of private lateral connections to underground pipes, which could save the city money in the long run, while also preventing basement back-ups.
- The city now has a 5-year sanitation plan which will gradually transition all customers onto a “Pay as You Throw” garbage fee, with unlimited recycling and compost pickup. This will save the city money and reduce our landfills waste which has become subject to heavy state fees in recent years.
- In order to prevent libraries from closing, the city is looking at creating a new generation of mixed-use libraries, which will have more hours of service and better technology access.

What to do with Old Electronics?

Answer: Computers, computer accessories, TVs, cell phones and other electronics pose a potential risk to the environment and human health if disposed of in a landfill, incinerated or illegally dumped. This is because almost all electronics contain lead, mercury, cadmium, other heavy metals and chemical flame retardants. The US EPA estimates that approximately 2 million tons of unwanted electronics are generated each year. By law, businesses and institutions in Wisconsin must either recycle their discarded electronics or determine whether they are hazardous waste and manage them accordingly.

The City of Milwaukee has two Self-Help Recycling and Safe Disposal centers where residents can drop-off computers and computer equipment. Television sets are not accepted at this time. For information about the centers including hours and accepted items, visit www.milwaukee.gov/selfhelpcenters. For more information on other opportunities for recycling your old electronics, visit www.milwaukee.gov/recyclingideas.

City’s Real Estate Values Hold Steady

Despite the foreclosure crisis and the collapse of the real estate market in many American cities, Milwaukee’s real estate values held their ground during 2010. Overall the city’s residential and commercial tax basis grew .63%.

In the 4th District, there was a slight decline in condominium values. However, this decline was offset by a slight increase in single family and duplex housing values and a robust increase in commercial real estate values. Overall, the 4th District tax base grew 3.28%.
District Developments

Tip Hotline Means $$ for Reporting Illegal Dumping

The Common Council has approved a tip hotline whereby callers can be eligible to receive reward money after anonymously providing information on incidents of illegal dumping of debris and/or hazardous materials.

Illegal dumping includes dumping of items, brush, and/or materials on streets, sidewalks, parking lots, vacant lots, alleys, or at vacant properties.

The 2011 city budget appropriated $25,000 in funding for the tip hotline, and on March 1 the Common Council voted to get the hotline up and operating.

If you see or know of illegal dumping, call WeTip at 1-800-78-CRIME. If the information provided leads to a conviction, you may be eligible for a reward up to $1,000.

If you witness illegal dumping, provide a detailed description of the vehicle(s) (license plate info, make/model, etc.) and the individual(s) involved. If possible, also provide a description of the items and/or material that was dumped.

The hotline is answered by bilingual operators 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Calls are taken for all crimes. All calls are anonymous, not just confidential.

Block Party Permits are issued to residents in the City of Milwaukee who would like to barricade the residential street they live on for a neighborhood event - main thoroughfares are not closed for block parties. Planning a block party is a big job and requires the support of all those who reside on the block that will be closed. For first-time events and at the request of the district alderman, residents on the block must sign a petition verifying their support.

Applications should be submitted 30 days prior to the event because they must be reviewed and approved by the district alderman, the Department of Public Works, and the Milwaukee Police Department. When choosing the date and time of your event, it is important to be mindful and considerate of those who reside in the surrounding area as well as on your block.

Residents may apply for one non-fee block party permit annually. A fee for subsequent block parties in the same year will be imposed for the delivery of barricades, which typically is $31.00.

Block Party Applications may be downloaded from DPW’s website at www.milwaukee.gov/mpw/BlockParties.htm or call the Special Event Permit Office at 286-3329.

VA Apartments Open on 35th St.

Alderman Bauman speaks at an event for Veterans Manor: The Thomas H. Wynn Memorial Apartments at 35th St. and Wisconsin Ave. The project includes 52 units of permanent supportive housing for veterans served by the Center for Veterans Issues. The Milwaukee Housing Trust Fund was a partner in this project.

Time to Think About Your Block Party Permit
The southwest corner of N. Old World Third St. and W. Juneau Ave. is being transformed, as construction crews build The Moderne, a 30-story tower that will include condos, apartments, and retail space. Work on the building is expected to be finished by 2013.

The $55.2 million development is being financed primarily through a $41.4 million loan from Capmark Financial Group Inc. and the AFL-CIO Housing Investment Trust. However, the project also has U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development loan guarantees, and the city has also issued loans for $9.3 million. The developer has also agreed to increase EBE (emerging business enterprise) participation to 25% and RPP (resident preference program) participation to 30%.

Alderman Bauman said the wait to bring The Moderne to fruition was long, but in the end it will “greatly enhance a part of our near downtown that is ripe for development.”

“The parcel where The Moderne is being built was once home to a muffler shop,” he said. “Now it will bring much-needed tax revenues to the city and will create hundreds of high wage construction jobs.”
Sanitation Changes – Please Note

In order to adjust to the four holiday weeks that occur over the summer, Milwaukee’s DPW Self Help sites will be closed Mondays instead of Wednesdays. This schedule went into effect on April 4, 2011.

It should also be noted that no garbage or recycling will be collected on the following days this calendar year:

- Labor Day – Friday & Monday – September 2 & 5, 2011
- Thanksgiving – Thursday & Friday – November 24 & 25, 2011
- Christmas Eve & Day – Friday & Monday – December 23 & 26, 2011

Carbon Monoxide Detectors Required

A state law that went into effect on February 1, 2011 requires all single and two-family homes to have CO or carbon monoxide detectors. The life-saving detectors work like smoke alarms, alerting occupants to dangerously high levels of carbon monoxide. Newly constructed homes will require detectors that are directly wired to the home’s electrical service; owners of existing homes may use battery-powered, stand-alone detectors.

The new law also includes a similar requirement for multifamily dwellings as well as any public building that is used for sleeping or lodging purposes.

Carbon monoxide is a gas that can be emitted from poorly functioning or poorly vented furnaces or other gas-powered home appliances. In Milwaukee, all too often outdoor appliances (heaters, grills, etc.) that burn fossil fuels are used indoors by people to heat their homes when their utilities have been shut off, creating the danger of carbon monoxide poisoning.

But carbon monoxide leaks can also be found emitting from worn or damaged furnace ventilation pipes. Other sources of elevated CO in homes include clogged chimneys and gas kitchen stoves that are used as a source of heat, he said.

State health officials recommend that the detectors be installed on every level of a home and near sleeping areas. Detectors should be placed as high as possible because carbon monoxide tends to rise when it escapes.

The Milwaukee Fire Department responded to 164 confirmed incidents of elevated levels of carbon monoxide in 2010, according to department data. In 2009, the latest year for which such statistics are available, hospital emergency rooms in Wisconsin treated 480 patients for CO poisoning, according to the state health department.


Carbon monoxide alarms, some of which come with smoke detectors, are relatively inexpensive.

New Garbage Cart Policies

Waste reduction works! More and more people find they no longer need two or more garbage carts because they’re doing an effective job recycling and generating less garbage. If you have an extra cart, please call 286-CITY (2489) or fill out an online service request and we’ll collect it. One of the changes brought about by this year’s budget, however, includes a $20 annual fee for every extra garbage cart you’d like added to your residence. The Sanitation Division repairs broken carts. Call 286-CITY or fill out an online service request to have your cart picked up for repair or replacement.

Please note that property owners can receive a citation if their carts are not returned to their proper location by 10 p.m. on the night of pick-up.

Call For Action – By The Book Or Computer

A limited number of the latest “Call For Action” booklets can be obtained by contacting my office. The popular telephone directory is arranged alphabetically by specific problems and topics. If you would like a copy please send me an e-mail at rbauma@milwaukee.gov or call my assistant at 286-2886.

You can also visit my website at www.milwaukee.gov/district4 to view the online version.

One Call That’s All: 286-CITY (2489)

That one number can connect you with 21 departments, 8,800 employees and 100s of city services, ranging from building permits to parking permission to library hours to garbage pickups.

Residents will still call 911 for emergencies but can use the new number for any other city-related calls. Of course you can always call my office at 286-2886.
2011 Festivals & Events

Jun. 1 - Oct. 26 Wednesdays • Westown Farmer’s Market • Zeidler Union Square
Jun. 2 - Sept. 22 Thursdays • Jazz in the Park • Cathedral Square Park
Jun. 4 - Oct. 29 Saturdays • East Town Market • Cathedral Square Park
Jun. 7 - Sept. 27 Tuesdays • East Town Market • Cathedral Square Park
Jun. 7 - Aug. 30 Tuesdays • Chill on the Hill • Humboldt Park, Bay View
Jun. 8 - Aug. 31 Wednesdays • River Rhythms • Pere Marquette Park
Jun. 29 - Jul. 10 • Summerfest • Henry W. Maier Festival Park
Jul. 10 • Summerfest Rock ‘n Sole Run • Henry W. Maier Festival Park
Jul. 14 - 17 • Bastille Days • East Town (Jefferson St./Cathedral Square)
Jul. 21 - 24 • Festa Italiana • Henry W. Maier Festival Park
Jul. 28 - 31 • German Fest • Henry W. Maier Festival Park
Aug. 4 - 14 • Wisconsin State Fair • Wisconsin State Fair Park
Aug. 6 - 7 • Milwaukee Air & Water Show • Bradford Beach, Milwaukee
Aug. 18 - 21 • Irish Fest • Henry W. Maier Festival Park
Aug. 26 - 28 • Mexican Fiesta • Henry W. Maier Festival Park
Sept. 5 • Labor Fest • Henry W. Maier Festival Park
Sept. 9 - 11 • 25th Indian Summer Festival • Henry W. Maier Festival Park
Sept. 24 - 25 • Doors Open Milwaukee • Headquarters at City Hall

Have A Safe & Enjoyable Summer!

Meet the Fireworks Task Force safety mascot, Sparky!

Visit www.milwaukee.gov/sparky to:
- Learn more about fireworks safety.
- Download & print your own coloring page!
- Like SparkyMKE on Facebook and he’ll keep you posted on fireworks events and more throughout Milwaukee!

SmartEnergyPays.com
(877) 399-1203

Milwaukee Energy Efficiency
Smart energy pays.

An energy efficient home is comfortable and cost saving.

Affordable loans, trusted partners and trained Energy Advocates can help you make it happen.

Contact an Energy Advocate today to make Smart Energy Pay!

City of Milwaukee residents only
Alderman Bauman took part in a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Erie Street Plaza, which includes a grove of aspen trees. The project was approved by the Common Council, and several city departments worked to bring it to fruition. The plaza is located on the terminus of Erie St., overlooking the Milwaukee harbor.

DID YOU KNOW? The art museum is free the first Thursday of every month! www.mam.org

Me² Delivers Home Energy Savings

Milwaukee’s Energy Efficiency program, Me², helps City of Milwaukee homeowners make energy-efficient home improvements such as installing insulation, air sealing and new heating equipment. It’s easy, affordable and quality-inspected.

Just schedule a FREE, no-obligation visit with an Energy Advocate. The Energy Advocate will identify financial resources to help you upgrade your home such as a FREE* Energy Consultation, incentives from Focus on Energy, other special offers and a low-interest loan through Summit Credit Union. The Energy Advocate can also assist you through the process by helping you select approved consultants and contractors.

Visit www.smartenergypays.com or call (877) 399-1203 (toll free) for more information or to schedule an Energy Advocate visit. Me² is brought to you by the City of Milwaukee Office of Environmental Sustainability, the US Department of Energy and Focus on Energy.

*Ask your Energy Advocate for details or visit www.smartenergypays.com.