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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOR INFORMATION CALL

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February 13, 2012

Ald. Robert J. Bauman  
(414) 286-2221

## **Resolution seeks proposals from private developers for new MPD HQ on near west side and new 1<sup>st</sup> District Station on Wisconsin Ave.**

Citing the need to spend at least **\$58 million** on renovations and repairs to Milwaukee's 1970s era Police Administration/Municipal Court building (PAB), **Alderman Robert J. Bauman** is urging his colleagues to adopt a bold approach that would produce a brand new state-of-the-art police administration/municipal court building; produce a new 1<sup>st</sup> District police station on Wisconsin Ave. downtown; generate new tax base and economic development in a central city neighborhood plagued by crime and disorder and decades of disinvestment; would buttress recent private investments in the neighborhood, and would facilitate the redevelopment of MacArthur Square – the location of the current PAB.

Alderman Bauman, chair of the Common Council's Public Works Committee, has drafted a Common Council resolution (**attached**) directing the Department of Public Works and the Department of City Development/Redevelopment Authority of the City of Milwaukee (RACM) to jointly develop and issue a request for proposal (RFP) for the development/construction of a new Police Administration/Municipal Court Building ("PAB") on property currently owned by RACM at the southeast corner of N. 27<sup>th</sup> St. and W. Wisconsin Ave., and the development/construction of space for a new MPD 1<sup>st</sup> District station on Wisconsin Ave. between N. 6<sup>th</sup> St. and the Milwaukee River.

The proposal would jump start economic development and revitalization efforts downtown and at both the current and (possible) future location of the PAB, Alderman Bauman said.

"The current Police Administration Building and Municipal Court (at N. 7<sup>th</sup> and W. State Streets) is outdated and drab, provides no economic benefit to the surrounding area, and needs at least \$58 million in repairs, renovations, and updates," Alderman Bauman said.

**-More-**

## **MPD Facility Proposals/ADD ONE**

Alderman Bauman said a new PAB at N. 27<sup>th</sup> and W. Wisconsin would build upon the investments made by the private sector in the neighborhood by the **Ambassador Hotel, Marquette University, Forest County Potawatomi, Marquette University High School** and the **Avenues West Business Improvement District**. “The potential is there to generate additional tax base by locating the new building in a central city neighborhood that has experienced crime and disorder and long term disinvestment,” he said.

“As we’ve seen with the redevelopment of the former Pabst Brewery complex and other locations in the city, if we provide a positive catalytic spark it can have an economic impact that could bring additional development and create tax base for the future,” Alderman Bauman said.

Likewise, demolishing the former PAB could also help bring housing and other development to MacArthur Square, he said.

The resolution calls for a developer to design and construct the new Police Administration /Municipal Court Building, with the city then entering into a lease agreement to use the complex.