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ROBERT G. DONOVAN
Alderman, 8th District

MacIver Institute report on streetcar should not be ignored

Statement from Alderman Bob Donovan
June 1, 2012

I still haven't heard a word from the mayor regarding my letters sent April 19 and May 15 urging a hold on the proposed downtown streetcar project because of uncertainty connected with next week's gubernatorial recall election. As you know, I have repeatedly urged the mayor to put the project on hold if he does not plan on subsidizing the project with state funds – should he become governor. But he won't answer the question, or provide any reasoning for his position.

However, the **MacIver Institute** report is just one more reasoned example of why the streetcar project is such a boondoggle, such a huge waste of money. I strongly urge you to read **the attached highlights** sheet on the study, prepared by the Legislative Reference Bureau.

I am also asking my 10 Common Council colleagues who voted for the streetcar project to read the highlights (or the entire report) and to reconsider their stand on the project. We simply cannot ignore studies like this one!

This \$65 million boondoggle is not supported by a large majority of Milwaukee residents. In fact, I believe 70% of Milwaukeeans not only do not support the streetcar project, but would much rather see us invest that \$65 million to create jobs by rebuilding the city's crumbling streets and roads. We simply can no longer ignore the wishes of our residents, and it's time to put the project back on a shelf where it belongs.

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