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**CHAIR:**  
Finance and Personnel Committee  
Employees' Retirement System Annuity and Pension Board  
Housing Trust Fund Advisory Board  
Milwaukee Arts Board

**MEMBER:**  
Steering and Rules Committee  
Zoning, Neighborhoods and Development Committee  
Deferred Compensation Plan Board



## **State funds for BMO/Harris Bradley Center helpful; others could also be helped**

### **Statement of Alderman Michael J. Murphy September 14, 2012**

I applaud Governor Scott Walker for allowing the state to chip in \$5 million to help pay for much needed maintenance and repairs to the BMO/Harris Bradley Center.

In my view, I do not see this move as a flip flop on the part of the Governor -- he is using the state surplus to help pay for repairs to the Bradley Center, a valuable statewide sports and entertainment venue and asset.

Also, today it was announced that \$500,000 of the share the state received from a national foreclosure crisis settlement with several major banks will be used to help demolish 39 vacant and blighted homes in Milwaukee. Governor Walker took \$25 million the state received as part of the same national foreclosure crisis settlement to help cover a potential state budget shortfall.

The fact remains that thousands of low- and moderate-income residents of Milwaukee and other Wisconsin cities were hurt badly by the foreclosure crisis, and the millions from the settlement was supposed to be used to help them and to mitigate the dire circumstances (such as thousands of vacant and abandoned homes) the crisis has caused in especially hard-hit communities like Milwaukee.

I sincerely hope the Governor will consider allocating some of the state surplus to help citizens affected negatively by the foreclosure crisis. In my opinion, such a move would be a welcome sign of hope for thousands of residents who have already lost so much.