

## JOE DAVIS, SR.

Alderman, 2nd District

### CHAIR

- Community and Economic Development Committee
- Convenient Lending Task Force
- Sister Cities Committee

### CO-CHAIR

- Fireworks Task Force

### VICE CHAIR

- National League of Cities' International Council



### MEMBER

- Judiciary and Legislation Committee
- Public Safety Committee
- Steering and Rules Committee
- Milwaukee Economic Development Corporation
- National League of Cities' Board of Directors
- National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials Board of Directors

### HONORARY CONSUL

- Republic of South Africa – State of Wisconsin

# Hypocrisy rears its ugly head again

## Statement of Alderman Joe Davis, Sr.

July 29, 2015

I would like to thank the Potawatomi Hotel and Casino for substantially funding the Youth Works MKE project. However, young African Americans had to die at an alarming rate on Milwaukee's streets before Mayor Barrett aggressively sought to take leadership and advocate for this initiative, which he previously had a chance to support through the proposed City of Milwaukee Community Development Block Grant allocations for 2015. As a result of his inaction, the City of Milwaukee experienced an unprecedented increase in violence, some of it involving our children.

"This (program) puts the focus on kids and teens who are at risk of criminal involvement," Barrett said in a *Journal Sentinel* article.

But until now, his solution for this same population of kids and teens has been the allocation of \$2 million for police overtime and a press conference with the Wisconsin Attorney General, the Milwaukee County District Attorney, the U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Wisconsin and the Police Chief touting a "get tough and lock 'em up policy."

It is unfortunate that the Mayor is now so desperate to find a plan—even one that I proposed at the beginning of this year to deal with youth violence, may I remind you. He will use every political move to cover his tracks of complacency. But it had to get to this point, where young African Americans are continuously dying on the streets, to get him off his rear to advocate for this effective initiative.

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