



July 31, 2015

Ald. Milele A. Coggs
(414) 286-2994

Alderwoman Coggs invites residents to participate in Vacant Lot Challenge

Alderwoman Milele A. Coggs, in collaboration with Mayor Tom Barrett, is inviting Milwaukee residents to take part in the “Vacant Lot Challenge.” Participants will submit ideas for creating, improving, and activating a vacant lot, and the winning team will receive a \$10,000 reimbursable grant for project implementation.

A special public workshop about the project will be held in the 6th District from **6 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. and from 6:45 to 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, August 5** at the Ameritech King Commerce Center, 2745 N. Dr. Martin Luther King Dr. (**please ask for Julia Taylor 264-5000 in room 203**).

The challenge is a pilot project that will showcase creative ideas and strategies for transforming Milwaukee’s vacant land into an asset that contributes to a community need. Nonprofits and business leaders who have an interest in improving neighborhoods are encouraged to partner with residents and submit ideas.

Strategies should engage residents and address a community need such as food systems, art, community space, economic development, education and storm water retention. Project selection criteria will be based on:

- Creative ideas and solutions that address a community need
- Combining different ideas to address multiple needs or concerns
- Response to unique site characteristics and local community context
- Connections to other existing neighborhood activities and programs

The submission deadline for the challenge is Friday, August 14, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. For more information about the “Vacant Lot Challenge,” or the submission process, please visit www.milwaukee.gov/vlc.