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TONY ZIELINSKI
ALDERMAN, 14TH DISTRICT

Public safety over the streetcar always

Statement of Alderman Tony Zielinski October 2, 2017

I am sponsoring an amendment to Mayor Barrett's proposed 2018 executive budget that would take \$208,000 for two streetcar management positions and instead direct that money to pay for police officers.

In my view we desperately need more protective services workers in Milwaukee and we do NOT need more administrative management bureaucrats. The \$208,000 funding would allow us to pay for 2.5 police officers to help keep our citizens safe.

Additionally, because the Mayor is reimbursing the streetcar positions directly from the Parking Fund, he is financing the city portion of the streetcar operating costs from the city's coffers. In other words, contrary to what was advertised earlier by the Mayor the budget for the streetcar IS impacting the budget this year.

Public safety will ALWAYS be a higher priority than the streetcar for the residents I represent. I urge my colleagues to support my amendment during the upcoming budget process.

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