

10th

DISTRICT

ALDERMAN

Michael J. Murphy



200 E. Wells St. | Milwaukee, WI 53202 | 286-3763 | milwaukee.gov/district10 | mmurph@milwaukee.gov

AUTUMN 18

Dear Neighbor,

At the time of the release of this newsletter, the Milwaukee Brewers (we are proud that the team's Miller Park home is located in the 10th District!) have clinched their spot in the NLCS after winning the NL Central Division title and sweeping the Colorado Rockies in the NLDS. Our home team has played amazing baseball when it mattered most, and I join the district and the entire city in rooting for the Brewers and proudly stating—loudly—“This is My Crew!”

Before I introduce what you can read about in this latest edition of my newsletter, I want to remind everyone to make sure to vote in the November 6 General Election (see voter registration and polling location info on this front page). As we have seen recently locally and across Wisconsin, your vote and every vote DOES matter.

First, I ask that you please read the article on pages 2 and 3 regarding the work of the City-County Heroin, Opioid, and Cocaine Task Force. The devastating problem of drug overdoses and deaths in our community has been staggering but the task force has been working to constructively intervene in the crisis with multifaceted solutions that can hopefully help save lives.

On pages 4 and 5, I have provided an update on the MKE Plays initiative that has transformed nine city playgrounds with six additional playgrounds soon to be completed. The support of generous donors and input from neighborhood residents (and kids) has made the unique initiative an amazing success in a very short time.

The newsletter also features informative articles about the following programs:

- **Efforts to regulate E-Cigarettes** (to reduce youth use/ consumption of E-Cigarettes).
- **Implementing a food grading system** to improve public health and inform consumers.
- **Housing Trust Fund** leverages private investment creating more than 1,000 housing units.
- An update on **Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)**.
- The coming restoration of the (historic) **Milwaukee Soldiers Home**.
- **New businesses** that have opened in the district.
- An update on the work of the **Milwaukee Arts Board** (this year assisting more than 35 community organizations!).
- **Mediation services** that can help people avoid eviction.
- A feature on the **Center Street BID**.
- Information to help protect kids from lead.

Please have a safe and happy fall and holiday season.

Sincerely,


Alderman Michael J. Murphy



November General Election

November 6, 2018

Remember to vote in the November General Election. Polling places in Milwaukee will be open from **7:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.**

Voter Registration Kiosks

The Election Commission and Milwaukee Public Libraries have partnered to establish voter registration kiosks at every City of Milwaukee public library branch. These kiosks provide access to **myvote.wi.gov**, the state's voter registration database and allow residents to register or update their registration using a WI driver's license or state-issued ID.

Visit **myvote.wi.gov** with your WI driver's license or ID to:

- Register to vote for the first time
- Change your address or name
- Confirm your voter registration

Or visit any Milwaukee Public Library for assistance with registering.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

 **(414) 286-VOTE**

 **milwaukee.gov/election**

Early voting is taking place in Milwaukee until Sunday, November 4th.

Please go to the city Election Commission website at **milwaukee.gov/election** for all City of Milwaukee early voting information.



City-County Heroin, Opioid, and Cocaine Task Force Finalizes Report

In January 2017, the City of Milwaukee’s Common Council voted to create the City-County Heroin, Opioid, and Cocaine Task Force to address the rising number of drug overdoses and deaths in the region. Alderman Murphy was the primary sponsor of this legislation designed to bring together community experts in studying the problems of drug abuse in Milwaukee County and presenting policy recommendations to address the issue. In 2017 alone, more than 400 individuals died in Milwaukee County from overdose—that’s more than homicides, fatal car accidents, and suicides combined. The taskforce brings together partners from throughout the community, leveraging the combined expertise of officials from the city, county, community-based organizations, and medical professionals.

Preliminary Report

The taskforce released a preliminary report in April with recommended focus areas with input from the public and is currently in the process of holding community engagement sessions which will culminate in the release of a final report this year. Public input is a key component in better understanding how substance abuse affects our

communities and the steps needed to address its far-reaching impact. Recent community engagement sessions have been held at St. Joseph’s Hospital, Mitchell Street Library, and the Oak Creek Civic Center. Community members and practitioners worked alongside members of the council to brainstorm challenges and opportunities for addressing substance abuse in Milwaukee County.

“This issue is personal for many of us, and it’s a huge priority for Milwaukee County,” said Mike Lappen, co-chair for the Task Force and administrator for the Milwaukee County Behavioral Health Division. “We want people who are invested in creating a recovery-minded community to bring their ideas to the table so we can connect individuals to sustainable solutions that save lives.”

Prevention

Key to substance abuse solutions is the implementation of preventative efforts the prevent drug addictions before they start. Alderman Murphy has introduced two preventive programs in the region, both saving lives and taxpayer money.

In November, Alderman Murphy passed a budget amendment to the common council to secure an addi-

tional \$50,000 in funding for public awareness campaigns focused on addiction prevention.

In order to reduce the staggering 70% of opioid addictions that start in the home with the abuse of prescription medications, Alderman Murphy partnered with Alderman Bohl in the creation of a drug mail-back program. This program provides postage-paid drug disposal envelopes to the public at 10 Milwaukee area CVS Pharmacy locations, the Milwaukee police and Milwaukee fire department stations, and Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District’s main office. Alderman Murphy understands that, “It’s not enough to simply say don’t abuse prescription drugs; it’s vital the public also has proper information on their safe usage and disposal. Further, this program helps to prevent the improper disposal of prescriptions into waterways, aiding in environmental preservation.

“Safely disposing of unused medicine is something each of us can do to combat the opioid crisis and protect Lake Michigan,” said Jon Richards, Coalition Director of Take Back My Meds MKE. “I thank Alderman Murphy and the Milwaukee Fire Department for making it much easier for everyone to

get rid of their unused medicine. This is yet another example of the City of Milwaukee and the Fire Department working effectively on the front lines to combat the opioid crisis.” In 2017, this program resulted in the collection of over 500 pounds of prescription drugs through the submission of over 1,000 envelopes from citizens. Moving forward, Alderman Murphy continues to look for additional partners and ways to expand drug disposal efforts as key to reducing substance abuse in our communities.

Coordination Community Resources

The task force’s work has also culminated in a federally funded grant program which will be connecting emergency room patients to substance disorder disease treatment. This program will help to create a culture of warm hand offs where patients are directly referred to counseling and treatment services by County staff.

Last year, the Behavioral Health Division (BHD) introduced Team Connect to Milwaukee. Team Connect comprises of a clinician and peer specialist who follow up with individuals upon emergency room discharge following an overdose. Research shows this connection within 24 hours of discharge is vital to recovery and prevention of further crisis. Recently, Froedtert part-



nered with BHD to provide this service to their patients upon discharge after an overdose.

“Our goal is to prevent a crisis from happening, even if it’s happened before,” said Lappen. “Connecting individuals to resources when and where they need it takes a concerted effort across many health systems and community-based providers. With rising costs and extended waiting lists for residential treatment, access to alternative programs are vital components to prevent further crisis.”

The Behavioral Health Division (BHD) connects individuals to addiction prevention, treatment and recovery resources through its Light and

Unite Red committee, Community Access to Recovery Services (CARS), Combined Community Services (CCS), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), and more. It also provides Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) and Outpatient Plus.

In addition, BHD operates the region’s only emergency psychiatric department. As BHD transitions its acute psychiatric services to a new provider, Universal Health Services, the Wisconsin Policy Forum (WPF), is conducting a “crisis redesign” study in partnership with the Milwaukee Health Care Partnership (MHCP) to provide recommendations for how crisis services should look in Milwaukee County moving forward. The study is expected to be complete this fall and will be public. ▀



If you or someone you know needs help with substance abuse disorder, reach out to...

 **1-800-662-HELP (4357)**

 **mkecope.com**

BHD CARS access point:
(414) 257-8095

24/7 Crisis Line:
(414) 257-7222

MKE Plays: Community Benefiting From Unique Partnership

Innovative Partnership

The MKE Plays initiative began in 2015 as an innovative way to reprioritize funding for public parks through private sector partnerships and financial contributions. Alderman Murphy's idea for this program comes from an appreciation of the public playgrounds he grew up on and the need for continued investment in safe and attractive playgrounds for children in all communities to enjoy.

Benefits

A key tenant of the MKE Plays program is taking a community-centered approach to designing playgrounds and elevating resident voice in deciding which amenities each park will offer. This, investing in public spaces not only gives children more opportunities for physical activity, but it provides more opportunities for community members to come together, increasing social capital which in turn increases economic development and makes communities safer.

Funding

To date, the MKE Plays initiative has brought in over 1.75 million dollars of private funding while leveraging an additional 1.31 million dollars in public funding, totaling more than 3 million dollars of investment in Milwaukee Parks. Most recently the program received a \$30,000 grant from the Walt Disney Company and \$75,000 from the Green Bay Packers. These funds will be used to partner with the local Hmong community to create designs for the Foundation Park playground that incorporates traditional Hmong symbols and patterns and the development of a playground at 31st & Galena. ▀



PLAYGROUND UPDATES AND DONORS LIST

PLAYGROUND	STATUS
ARLINGTON HEIGHTS	COMPLETED
PHILLIPS	COMPLETED
DEBACK	COMPLETED
GARDNER (67 TH & SPOKANE)	COMPLETED
ENDERIS	COMPLETED
SNAILS CROSSING	UNDER CONSTRUCTION
GORE (20 TH & OLIVE)	UNDER CONSTRUCTION
BUFFUM & CENTER FOUNDATION	COMPLETED
21 ST & KEEFE	COMPLETED
TROWBRIDGE SQUARE	UNDER CONSTRUCTION
5 TH & RANDOLPH	UNDER CONSTRUCTION
WITKOWIAK	PREPARING FOR BIDDING
29 TH & CLYBOURN	CREATING DESIGN
31 ST & GALENA	COMPLETED

Arlington Heights



Phillips



Gardner



Milwaukee Arts Board

The Milwaukee Arts Board was founded in 1991 to increase access to the arts and contribute to the artistic vibrancy of our communities. Since its inception, the Arts Board has awarded over 5 million dollars to this end. As the Milwaukee Arts Board chair, Alderman Murphy understands the importance of giving arts organizations the funding they need to serve Milwaukee’s residents.

In 2018, the Milwaukee Arts Board awarded over \$200,000 to over 35 organizations. “The Milwaukee arts community continues to strengthen Milwaukee’s neighborhoods. Communities who have been exposed to trauma are more equipped to heal and thrive in deeper ways thanks to access to the arts,” said Ald. Michael Murphy. “We’re pleased to be able to support their



efforts.” 2018 first time grant recipients include Girls Rock Milwaukee, Quasimondo Physical Theatre, and Signature Dance Company. ▀

Soldiers Home to be Home Again — Rehab to Historic Building Set

Originally built in 1867 as a place for veterans to live in community and heal at the conclusion of the Civil War, the Milwaukee Soldiers Home has served thousands of Milwaukee veterans over the years. Located on the grounds of the Clement J. Zablocki VA Medical Center, key Soldiers Home buildings are part of a rehabilitation designed to preserve a historic landmark, and restore it to its original function, the service of veterans. Specifically the rehabilitation project will address the need for housing for veterans experiencing homelessness in our city.

“The Soldiers Home is a local and national treasure,” said Joe Alexander of The Alexander Company. “We are proud to be working on a project that will allow veterans to once again experience the grounds that were designed uniquely for them and we’re grateful for the partnership and support of Alderman Murphy.”

Housing Trust Fund

In November of 2017, Alderman Murphy as Chairman of the Housing Trust Fund Advisory Board, along with board members, allocated \$150,000 to the rehabilitation of the Soldiers Home into housing for military veterans. “The Soldier’s Home encompasses several buildings that are among the most important historical structures in Milwaukee,” Alderman Murphy said. “The work funded by the Housing Trust Fund on the Soldier’s Home grounds will allow the VA to continue to meet its goal there to provide low-cost housing to veterans and their families at risk of becoming homeless.

Rehabilitation

The Soldiers Home will preserve six historical buildings and provide 101 units of housing for veterans and their families facing housing insecurity, including units specifically designated for female veterans. Additionally, the site will offer common spaces for community activities and wrap-around services for residents. ▀

Please consider donating to help save the Soldiers Home:

 SaveTheSoldiersHome.com



Buildings included in rehabilitation project on the VA Campus.



Old Main will be renovated to once again provide housing to veterans and their families.



Housing Trust Fund Projects Approved, Making a Difference

Alderman Murphy acts as the chair of the Housing Trust fund which was developed in 2007 to provide a source of loans and grants for the construction, rehabilitation, and accessibility modification of affordable housing for low-moderate individuals facing housing insecurity. This innovative program leverages invested city money to attract matching private development funds for housing construction.

To date, the Housing Trust Fund has awarded 7.1 million dollars to support affordable housing efforts and leveraged a total of 176.3 million dollars, providing over 1,000 units of housing to local families. Every dollar that the city has invested in the Housing Trust Fund has yielded a return of nearly 25 dollars. ▀

2017 Housing Trust Fund Awardees

\$150,000

The **Milwaukee Soliders Home** for rehabilitation and construction of 101 housing units for veterans and their families.

\$80,000

Community First to address critical and emergency repairs in the Washington Park Neighborhood Improvement District. Funds will provide forgivable grants for up to 16 low-income units.

\$40,000

Gibraltar Development of Milwaukee Corp. to replace a roofing system and address other urgent needs.

\$210,000

Seven04 Place Apartments to construct 60 new low-income families including targeted units for veterans and families endangered of becoming homeless.

\$40,000

Layton Boulevard West Neighbors, Inc. for acquisition, renovation, and sale of two blighted properties.

\$80,000

Revitalize Milwaukee to address necessary housing updates, repairs, and accessibility modifications for up to 20 low-income elderly homeowners.

New Businesses Enhancing, Adding to 10th District Commerical Mix

2Mesa

2Mesa, a Mexican restaurant in the Martin Drive neighborhood opened its doors in late March of 2018. Located at 411 W. Martin Drive, 2Mesa brought new life to the former Birdie's café building which had been vacant since the café closed in 2014. 2Mesa offers tasty entrees from a rancheros omelet for breakfast to a Mexican take on a German favorite for dinner—Mexican Style Chicken Schnitzel.

West End Conservatory

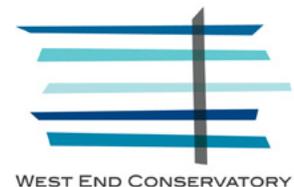
Contributing to neighborhood revitalization, West End Conservancy recently moved into a once blighted city-foreclosed property in Washington Heights. In addition to contributing to neighborhood development, West End Conservatory brings the richness of arts into the community, offering music lessons to children, youth, and adults.

Vennture Brew Co

Vennture Brew Co opened their doors this July. Located at 5519 W. North Avenue, Vennture Brew Co, whose menu includes craft beers and freshly roasted coffee, aims to serve as a community gathering space and source of positive economic development on North Avenue.

Battle Box Studio

Battle Box Studios, a popular North side video game business, announced in fall 2017 that they will be doing additional renovations to properties adjacent to their 5431 W. Lisbon Avenue location. Renovations include a gaming lounge and restaurant, providing a space for gamers to convene around their shared passions. ▀





Ald. Murphy Looking to Regulate E-Cigarettes

Alderman Murphy has been on the forefront of addressing e-cigarette use in the city of Milwaukee through public health legislation aimed at protecting residents from hazardous second-hand aerosol and keeping e-cigarettes out of the hands of youth.

Risks

A 2016 report from the World Health Organization (WHO) concluded that secondhand aerosols from e-cigarettes are a new air contamination source for hazardous particulate matter (PM). The levels of some metals, such as nickel and chromium, in second-hand aerosols are not only higher than background air, but also higher than second-hand smoke.

Legislative Measures

The first of the three-pronged approach to ensuring tobacco safety in Milwaukee was an increase in the fines for businesses illegally selling tobacco to minors and selling single cigarettes known as “loosies” instituted by the Municipal Court. This move was facilitated by the encouragement of Alderman Murphy, Alderman Cavalier “Chevy” Johnson, and the Office of the City Attorney.

Secondly, Alderman Murphy was the lead sponsor of legislation which prohibits the sale of e-cigarettes to minors, aligning local ordinance with current state statute. “With youth e-cigarette usage nearly doubling from 2014 to 2016, this forward thinking action by the Milwaukee Common Council will help send a message to our youth that no matter what flavor they come in, e-cigarettes are both addictive for the user and harmful to those breathing in the secondhand aerosol,” said Anneke Mohr, Community Advocates - City of Milwaukee Tobacco-Free Alliance coordinator.

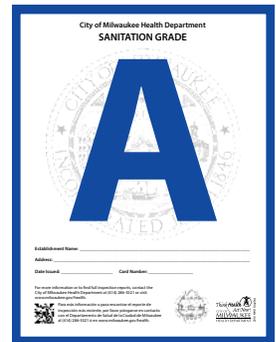
The final initiative spearheaded by Alderman Murphy was a resolution passed the common council which prohibits use of e-cigarettes on City property in areas where the state law currently bans smoking. Alderman Murphy said the intent of these policies was to increase overall public health. “This package is a major step forward in protecting the health of all Milwaukeeans and reducing the impact of tobacco and nicotine on youth.”

Ald. Murphy Pushes for Food Grading to Help Improve Public Health

Alderman Murphy worked with the City of Milwaukee Health Department to launch a grading system for food establishments. Milwaukee’s Food Sanitation Grading System will result in letter grade placards posted at food service establishments citywide. This program both streamlines the Milwaukee health department’s rating system for the sanitation of food service establishments and empowers residents with greater access to knowledge of sanitation grades.

Successes

In making information on health ratings readily accessible to the public, this program strives to motivate business owners to rectify health code infractions before inspections occur. To date, the implementation of this grading system has resulted in a decrease in the number of restaurants with priority violations, a trend that hasn’t been seen since this data has been collected. Further, the program has seen a reduction in the overall number of violations found inspecting restaurants. 



If you support more readily available sanitation grade information in Milwaukee, please contact your state representatives in Madison and let them know how you feel. To reach your legislators please call the Legislature’s main phone line (toll free) at 1-800-362-9472.

“Save-A-Lot is a fixture within the Milwaukee communities in which we do business. As community stewards, part of our responsibility is offering safe and clean environments to our loyal customers. The City of Milwaukee has developed a fantastic system, which now allows them to grade our performance at the conclusion of their regular audits within our establishments. Grading will help keep our team alert and aware, while also making it known to our customers that their safety is our top concern.”

– Doug Lambert

CORPORATE DISTRICT MANAGER, SAVE-A-LOT

“We didn’t like it at first, but it keeps you informed and on your toes. Our customers love it and we do too!”

– Akeem Rashad Jr.

THAT CORNBEEF PALACE

Update: Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)

Milwaukee County continues to plan for the implementation of a nine-mile east-west bus rapid transit (BRT) project connecting major employment, education and recreational destinations throughout the region. The proposed project follows Wisconsin Avenue, Hawley Road, and Bluemound Road from downtown Milwaukee to the City of Wauwatosa, where it would use 94th and 92nd streets to serve Milwaukee Regional Medical Center and Milwaukee County Research Park, and then follow Watertown Plank Road to its termi-



nus at the Swan Boulevard Park-and-Ride. Service areas will include downtown Milwaukee, the near West Side, Marquette University, Wauwatosa and the Milwaukee Regional Medical Center (MRMC). The project will provide improved access to the region's busiest corridor and support economic development.

The county completed a feasibility study of this project in 2016, identifying a preferred route along Wisconsin Avenue and Blue Mound Road. Originally, the County recommended that the Bus Rapid Transit operate in dedicated lanes along Blue Mound Road, however, due to concerns voiced by neighbors and businesses over the practicality of single-use lanes, Alderman Murphy was the lead sponsor of legislation in July of 2017 which mandated that Bus Rapid Transit lines operate in mixed traffic along this road. ▀

Additional information can be found at:

 eastwestbrt.com

Center St. BID: Working to Enhance Entire Neighborhood

Business Improvement District 39, which encompasses the Center Street Marketplace, provides increased opportunities for commercial development and financial growth in the area. The Center Street BID aims not only to support the commercial corridor, but is working in partnership with community members and organizations to support the entire neighborhood.

Shop Center Street MKE

Most recently, the BID hosted Shop Center Street MKE on July 30, 2018. This event provided outreach with over 400 community members on the importance of shopping locally and connecting residents with business owners to emphasize the importance of good stewardship between businesses and the community at large. Participants were enthused by the event remarking, "Center Street BID cares about the entire community and not just the business owners." Another participant expressed, "Owning a business on Center Street is a great opportunity, especially for entrepreneurs."



Opportunities for Future Growth

Center Street BID has seen great trajectory with new businesses and their engagement with the community. The BID is in the planning phase for additional events in 2019 that will showcase local vendors and bring more community members together around Center Street. A participant of the Shop Center Street event stated, "the BID is stronger than ever and we appreciate the support." ▀



Leaf Pick-up

City of Milwaukee residents may rake leaves into the street from October 1st through November 15th.

Tips for Successful leaf collection:

- Keep piles 1 foot into the street, away from the curb (see photo above).
- Do not put leaves in plastic bags.
- Do not put brush in leaf piles. Keep these items separate between the curb and sidewalk.

286-CITY | One Call, That's All

286-CITY connects residents to resources for all city services, from building permits to parking permission, library hours, to garbage pick-ups.

Alderman Murphy's office is also a resource for any city services, complaints, concerns, and feedback. Please call 286-3763, the alderman would enjoy hearing from you.

Avoid Eviction: Seek Mediation Before Filing

Mediate Milwaukee offers free mediation services to tenants and landlords who want to avoid the cost, time, and public record associated with the court process for eviction. This program is funded through the Milwaukee County Clerk of Courts.

Mediation is a private discussion with a trained mediator who works with landlords and tenants to help find solutions to problems they're having related to the rental agreement or with the rental property. Typical problems include: rent payments, maintenance, communication, disruptive behavior/911 calls, and security deposits. Mediation takes place over the phone or in-person at the parties' request.

We encourage landlords and tenants to mediate before an eviction action is filed to get the greatest benefits from mediation. An eviction action through the court is costly to the landlord, and an eviction record on the Wisconsin Circuit Court Access website (referred to as CCAP) affects the tenant's ability to rent somewhere else in the future. These costs together with the time spent in Court can be avoided with a mediated agreement. 

For more information visit:

 mediatemilwaukee.com

To request mediation call:

 (414) 939-8800



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In September Alderman Murphy spoke during a groundbreaking ceremony at the playground located at N. 31st and W. Galena streets where volunteers from the Green Bay Packers, MKE Plays and the Milwaukee Police Department were taking part in a build project to transform the existing deteriorated play space. The MKE Plays project was completed in early October and will be a fun and safe destination for neighborhood children for many years. Pictured with Alderman Murphy (L to R) Packers backup quarterback DeShone Kizer, former Packer player Kevin Barry, Capt. Cassandra Libal of MPD's Office of Community Outreach and Education, Alderman Russell W. Stamper, II and Mayor Tom Barrett.

Parents: Protect Your Kids Get Lead Safe in 3!



Look for Lead

Check your home for chipping, cracking or peeling paint, lead pipes and plumbing, or other possible lead sources like painted toys and ceramics.

Talk to a Doctor about Lead Testing

If you are pregnant or have a child under age 6, you may need to be tested. All children should be tested three times before age 3, and some children should continue to be tested up to age 6.

Get the Facts

Find information and resources to take action at LeadSafeMKE.com

LeadSafeMKE.com



SAFE PAINT SAFE WATER SAFE KIDS