

# PETER BURGELIS

11th DISTRICT ALDERMAN



## E-NEWSLETTER | November 2025

Dear Neighbor,

As we approach the holiday season, I want to take a moment to wish you and your loved ones a happy early Thanksgiving. This time of year we often reflect on what we are thankful for, and I am both thankful and grateful for all the wonderful people who help make District 11 the best place in Milwaukee to live and work.

At City Hall, we recently adopted an amended 2026 City budget that was heavily influenced by your input - and for that I want to say thank you. In this newsletter, you will read more about several of the items we adopted in the amended budget, as well as a variety of other upcoming events and initiatives I hope you take advantage of. As always, please don't hesitate to contact our office if we can be of service.

### DATES TO REMEMBER

**Nov. 11 - 16**  
**Latvian Museum Exhibit**  
City Hall Rotunda, 200 E. Wells St.  
Daily

**Nov. 18**  
**Pivot Workshop**  
Zablocki Library, 3501 W. Oklahoma Ave.  
1 - 3 p.m.

**Dec. 5**  
**Jackson Park Tree Lighting Ceremony**  
Triangle of S. 43rd St., W. Forest Home Ave., and W. Oklahoma Ave.  
6:45 p.m.

**Dec. 9**  
**MPD District 6 Crime and Safety Meeting**  
Tippecanoe Library, 3912 S. Howell Ave.  
6 p.m.

**Dec. 14**  
**Jackson Park Farmers Market Winter Market**  
Jackson Park Boathouse  
9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**Dec. 16**  
**S. 43rd & Jackson Park Traffic Calming Neighborhood Meeting**  
Zablocki Library, 3501 W. Oklahoma Ave  
5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

**Feb. 17**  
**Spring Primary Election**  
Check your registration status, polling place, and more at [myvote.wi.gov](https://myvote.wi.gov)  
Election hours: 7am - 8pm



Ald. Burgelis with Ald. Moore, President Perez, and DCD Commissioner Crump at the grand opening of the new Associated Bank Theater Center.

### Good Neighbor Grant Fund

The City of Milwaukee recently launched the Good Neighbor Grant Fund, a \$400,000 community investment initiative aiming to empower block clubs, neighborhood associations and resident-led groups to design and lead projects that foster safety, unity and connection in their communities. The program allows neighborhood groups and individuals to come up with solutions or projects to address a neighborhood concern or foster a sense of community. Grant amounts can range from \$250 to \$500, and can be used for a variety of efforts including starting a new block club, build a community garden, or host clean and green events, as examples.

Applications for the grant funding open Oct. 1. They can be made in-person at Safe and Sound's office, 4422 W. Leon Terrace, or online at [www.safesound.org](https://www.safesound.org).

### Pivot Workshop

As part of the Pivot Program, the License Division hosts quarterly, free workshops aimed at helping aspiring business owners learn more about licensing, permitting, inspections, and general relationships with City departments. The final Pivot Workshop of 2025 will be held on Tuesday, November 18 at the Zablocki Library Branch (3501 W. Oklahoma Ave.)

The workshop includes presentations from the Milwaukee Police Department, Department of Neighborhood Services, Milwaukee Health Department, Department of City Development, Department of Administration, and the License Division. It's an excellent opportunities for entrepreneurs to ask questions before they start applying for licenses, and they receive a certificate of completion that is attached to their business record. Those interested can register [here](#).



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Receive notices from the City of Milwaukee, Milwaukee County and Milwaukee Public Schools. Choose from news releases, meeting notices and agendas, job announcements, new property sale listings, bid notices, online auction items, and many others. Visit [milwaukee.gov/enotify](https://milwaukee.gov/enotify).

Reasonable accommodations can be made with at least 72-hour notice before the event by calling 414-286-2233

Please rate the level of importance

- 1 Very Important
- 2 Somewhat Important
- 3 Unsure
- 4 Somewhat Unimportant
- 5 Very Unimportant

| Budget Area                               | Average Level of Importance |
|---|-----------------------------|
| Public Works Infrastructure               | 2.45                        |
| Public Works Operations                   | 2.50                        |
| Fire Department                           | 2.51                        |
| Milwaukee Water Works                     | 2.56                        |
| Public Library                            | 2.66                        |
| Health Department                         | 2.68                        |
| Comptroller's Office                      | 2.69                        |
| Police Department                         | 2.70                        |
| Municipal Court                           | 2.72                        |
| Election Commission                       | 2.74                        |
| Neighborhood Services                     | 2.76                        |
| City Attorney's Office                    | 2.77                        |
| Treasurer's Office                        | 2.81                        |
| Common Council / Office of the City Clerk | 2.82                        |
| Office of the Mayor                       | 2.88                        |
| City Development                          | 2.93                        |

## Building a Better Budget

This year, the Common Council's Finance and Personnel Committee, which I serve as Vice Chair, sought to increase public engagement in the 2026 City budget process. That included a new public listening session held at the recently opened King Library, and a digital survey for folks to provide additional feedback. I want to thank every resident who attend a meeting to testify, submitted a survey response, or contacted our office to share your thoughts. Our budget process is stronger when residents participate, and those in District 11 showed up to voice their thoughts.

The message was heard loud and clear: residents want top-tier services as a result of the tax dollars they pay. In response to this, I co-sponsored an amendment with Alderwoman Marina Dimitrijevic that increases access to Sunday library hours, adds funding to housing support initiatives, and invests in our city workforce to bolster recruitment and retention to offer top notch city services, among other priorities.

I also sponsored several other adopted amendments, including \$8 million for the Milwaukee Fire Department to address urgent fire fleet replacement needs, and explore innovative service models to improve public safety and operational efficiency. We're making sure our firefighters have the equipment they need to respond quickly and safely, while also asking smart questions about how we can deploy resources more efficiently in the future.

I also want to take a moment to thank all of the city staff who supported this year's budget process. I am proud of the budget we amended and adopted, and look forward to seeing the benefits in action in the year ahead.



## Leaf Collection Extended

The City of Milwaukee Fall Leaf Collection has been extended through November 30. No special request for leaf collection is necessary until DPW has completed collection of the route after leaf rake out. Leaf collection operations cycle through the city systematically beginning mid-October. Once leaf rake out ends, DPW makes one final collection sweep across the City. To be collected, ensure that leaves have been raked out by the leaf rake out deadline. Leaves raked out after the deadline will not be collected. Residents should rake their leaves into the curb lanes for collection to be composted to make a rich soil amendment. You can use the city's leaf progress [map](#) to track collection progress in your neighborhood.



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