



## E-NEWSLETTER | October 2026

Dear Neighbor,

The Common Council is underway in its review of the Mayor's proposed 2027 city budget. This is arguably the Council's biggest undertaking each year, and as Vice-Chair of the Finance and Personnel Committee, I take this responsibility seriously. We have already heard from residents during the Joint Public Hearing and the recent District 11 town hall, but you still have one more opportunity to share your thoughts. You can read about that, and more, in this month's e-newsletter.

A budget is a road map of priorities for the year ahead. District 11 residents have made it clear what these priorities are: fixing our streets, supporting our city's aging infrastructure, public safety, and providing timely, high-quality public services. These will be at the forefront of my decision-making as we continue to hear budget presentations and consider budget amendments.

Should you have any questions, comments, thoughts, or concerns related to the budget or other city issues, please don't hesitate to contact our office. Rob and I (who, if you haven't met yet, is introduced in this e-newsletter) are here to help!



**Ald. Burgelis speaking with WISN 12 news about new legislation meant to crackdown on illegal fireworks.**

### Share Your Thoughts - 2027 Budget

Thank you to all the District 11 residents who participated in the Joint Public Hearing on the Mayor's proposed 2027 budget earlier this week. Resident feedback is a critical part of the budget process, and I value your thoughts and weigh them heavily as we continue through the process and ultimately consider amendments.

There is still one more opportunity for public comment on the 2027 budget. The Common Council's Finance and Personnel Committee will hold a public listening session on Saturday, October 17, at 9:30 a.m. at Mitchell Library, 906 W. Historic Mitchell St. This event will be in-person, but those wishing to provide input virtually may do so by registering in advance [here](#). Please plan to attend and share your thoughts, comments, ideas, or other budget-related input.

### Streetlights Out? Report It!

While DPW Infrastructure works diligently to prevent outages and perform preventative maintenance and upgrades to the City's infrastructure, the department also relies on engaged residents to report outages and request improvements based on experiences in their communities.

There are several ways that residents can report streetlight outages.

- Call (414) 286-CITY (2489)
- Report an outage online [here](#)
- Use the MKE Mobile Action app on your smartphone or device

If multiple blocks of streetlights are out, or if there are exposed wires/down poles, do not use the online form and please call (414) 286-CITY immediately.

### DATES TO REMEMBER

**Oct. 19**  
**MPD District 6 Crime and Safety Meeting**  
Our Lady of Lourdes, 3722 S. 58th St.  
6 p.m.

**Nov. 3**  
**Fall General Election**  
Polls open 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.  
Check your registration status, find your polling place and more at [myvote.wi.gov](#).

**Nov. 14**  
**Community Thanksgiving Lunch**  
5335 W. Oklahoma Ave.  
noon - 4 p.m.  
Register online [here](#) or by calling (414) 356-9883

**Dec. 4**  
**Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony**  
4300 W. Oklahoma Ave.  
6:45 p.m.

**Dec. 12**  
**Jackson Park Winter Farmers Market**  
3500 W. Forest Home Ave.  
9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.



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

## FALL LEAF COLLECTION OPTIONS

#1

### Bagged Leaf Collection

- Use compostable paper lawn bags
- Plastic bags are NOT accepted
- Place bags at curb/lawn edge for pickup
- Help keep leaves contained during changing weather and protect storm drains and waterways



## FALL LEAF COLLECTION OPTIONS

#2

### Rake-Out Collection

- Traditional rake-out collection remains
- Rake leaves into a pile near curb lane
- Keep a one foot gap from the curb
- Keep leaf piles away from storm drains



## Leaf Collection - What You Need to Know

The Fall Leaf Rake-Out period began October 1. Residents may rake leaves into the street for collection through November 15. New this year, residents may also place leaves in paper yard waste bags at the curb or lawn edge for collection. After the rake-out period ends, DPW will continue cycling through the entire city to collect remaining leaves. This final collection will take several weeks to complete.

For Fall 2026, residents also have a new option to place leaves in paper yard waste bags. Bags should be placed at the curb line or lawn edge, not in the street or alley. Plastic bags of any kind are prohibited. DPW especially encourages residents to consider the paper-bag option in areas adjacent to bike lanes, traffic-calming areas, angled parking, areas with limited street parking and locations prone to surface flooding.

## District 11 Town Hall Recap

District 11 residents came out to join me for our annual town hall meeting last week. We talked about the budget, public safety, heard from the Commissioner of the Department of Neighborhood Services, and more. Among the notable takeaways, residents want to see increased enforcement of e-vehicles like bikes and scooters, expressed frustration around the communication and frequency of road closures, and shared both pros and cons of recent traffic calming measures.

In addition to the residents who joined the town hall, I want to thank the city staff who made themselves available to share updates and answer questions. These town halls are a valuable resource to connect with residents, and I look forward to more in-district opportunities in the future.

## Meet Robert Miller - New D11 Legislative Aide

Howdy Folks – my name is Robert Miller, the new 11th District Legislative Assistant for Alderman Peter Burgelis. I recently completed my Masters of Public Policy at George Mason University ('25) in Arlington, VA. Additionally, I am a very proud alumnus of Marquette University ('23), receiving degrees in International Affairs, Political Science, and German.

I gained various levels of working experience with the courts in Wisconsin and Virginia, as well as budgetary & policy processes through coursework and the federal level. I look forward to connecting with constituents, getting out in the district, and serving the city that I love.



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