Dear 15th District Residents,

Thank you for the opportunity to continue to serve as your representative on the Milwaukee Common Council and your Alderman at City Hall. The year since my reelection has been a busy one, and, listening to the guidance and input of constituents like you, I have continued to grow and evolve as an elected official.

Working together with the community, I have focused my efforts on three areas—opportunity, workforce development and responsibility—to reshape Milwaukee into a city that’s a safe and prosperous home for everyone. First, I feel it’s important to create opportunities for residents from all backgrounds, regardless of race or income. In doing so, it is critical to develop our workforce so that every Milwaukeean is equipped with the skills and background they need to succeed in the workplace. As we all assume the responsibility for our personal wellbeing, we can also work together to create a safer, cleaner community.

Everyone has a part to play in this process. Whether it’s serving as a member of your local block watch, participating in neighborhood cleanups or helping family members and neighbors find stable, family-sustaining job opportunities, each of us can contribute to helping Milwaukee grow into a happier, healthier community.

This year, I will be expanding my efforts to reach out to community members who have not usually been engaged in this process. I will be hosting many more town hall meetings “on the block,” where I bring city officials and staff out to the people of our neighborhoods to hear what’s on their minds. I will also participate in many neighborhood walks, where I personally inspect a section of the district along with representatives from the Milwaukee Police Department and other city departments. Together, we will make our community safer.

Please introduce yourself when you see us out on your block this summer. These events have proved to be an excellent opportunity for me to hear from people I don’t normally hear from at City Hall. If you would like to schedule your block for one of these events, or if there are other issues with city services you would like to bring to my attention, please reach out to my office.

I’ll see you out on the block!

Russell W. Stamper, II
Alderman, 15th District
Neighborhood Jobs Opportunity Program Sees High Demand, Launches Website

In light of an enthusiastic response to the city’s new Neighborhood Jobs Opportunity Program, the Department of Public Works has launched an informational website detailing the program, which will create job opportunities for Milwaukee residents to maintain neighborhood properties.

Local contractors and organizations that are interested in contract work maintaining neighborhood properties can now visit milwaukee.gov/neighborhoodjobs to learn more and begin the application process.

“The information session for potential participants was overwhelmingly positive, and attendance was so strong that staff members ran out of informational handouts,” Alderman Stamper said. “To me, this affirms that there are a lot of aspiring entrepreneurs in Milwaukee who are interested in work trimming yards and shoveling snow, but who were prevented from qualifying by a complicated bidding process that favors big corporations with RFP experience.”

In order to make such opportunities more accessible to those in need of employment, Alderman Stamper said he worked with city departments to create a fixed-price contract system. Qualifying participants must be registered and incorporated in the State of Wisconsin, maintain a principal office in the City of Milwaukee and procure a minimum amount of insurance.

The new website creates a central hub for information about the program, allowing contractors and community-based organizations to more easily explore the opportunities that are available to them, and includes detailed instructions on how to apply.

Joblines Connects Residents with Reliable Jobs and Transportation

In an effort to provide residents with reliable transportation and employment, JobLines was recently introduced to the community. JobLines is a joint initiative of Milwaukee Inner-City Congregations Allied for Hope (MICAH), Black Health Coalition of Wisconsin (BHCW) and Milwaukee County Transit System (MCTS) connecting residents with nearly 1,000 daily rides on MCTS Routes 6 and 61 to suburban employment opportunities. These routes not only help stem the tide of unemployment in our community, but also promote economic growth locally and regionally.

Targeting nine Milwaukee zip codes, commuters utilize JobLines for access to more than 150 employers in Waukesha and Washington Counties. JobLines 6 runs south to BuySeasons in New Berlin from N. Port Washington Road to W. Capitol Drive in Milwaukee, and JobLine 61 runs north to Walmart in Germantown from N. 35th St. and N. Toronto St. (Near W. Capitol Dr.)

For more information on JobLines, including route information and employers along the line, visit http://www.ridemcts.com/joblines and follow us on Facebook and Twitter.
Residents Learn About Jobs
Working at New Bucks Arena

In partnership with the Wisconsin Entertainment and Sports Center, Alderman Stamper hosted a town hall meeting for residents interested in learning more about family-supporting careers that will be available at the new Milwaukee Bucks arena.

“The construction and opening of this new arena has the capacity to be a truly transformative moment for Milwaukee,” Alderman Stamper said. “But in order to make sure our residents benefit from this opportunity, we are paying special attention to making sure that Milwaukeeans of all backgrounds are involved in the process.”

The event was held in April at the St. Ann Center for Intergenerational Care – Bucyrus Campus, and also featured more than 15 community-based organizations which are hiring local residents. Alderman Stamper said the turnout for the event was excellent.

The meeting also offered residents the opportunity to be certified for the city’s Resident Preference Program. The RPP provides job opportunities to city residents with construction skills to work on development projects. Contractors bidding on certain public and private projects within the City of Milwaukee must hire a certain percentage of City of Milwaukee residents to work on those projects. To verify one’s eligibility, the City of Milwaukee issues a certification to qualified individuals.

Anyone who is interested in learning more about jobs at the Bucks arena should visit wisconsinesc.com/careers.
Alderman Stamper in the Community
Alderman Stamper Hosts Tanzanian Sister City Signing Ceremony

Alderman Stamper, chair of the City of Milwaukee’s Sister Cities Committee, hosted a Sister City agreement signing ceremony between Milwaukee and the District of Tarime, Tanzania at City Hall late last year. The special ceremony took place in the ornate Council Chamber and also featured Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett, Tarime Mayor Moses Matiko Misiwa and other Tanzanian officials.

Alderman Stamper said the Sister Cities International agreement with Tarime, Tanzania had been in the works for months and had mutually strong support and interest. “The partnership between our two cities is both exciting and encouraging. I’m confident that it will prove equally valuable for the citizens of Milwaukee and the citizens of Tarime,” he said. “I would also like to thank the work of the Sister Cities Committee, the Mosorec International Foundation team from Tanzania and the U.S., and all others who have helped form this relationship,” Alderman Stamper said.

Christine R. Thompson Mosore, Founder and President of Mosorec International Foundation in the U.S. and Tanzania said she believes the partnership will help strengthen global peace, and she looks forward to a successful relationship built on cultural understanding and cooperative, mutually beneficial programs in the areas of education, business, economic and agricultural development, social awareness and tourism, cultural exchange and municipal and technical exchanges.

Milwaukee is officially affiliated with Sister Cities International, a program with more than 50 years of promoting people-to-people diplomacy. As a result, Milwaukee’s city-to-city relationships, including former friendship cities and unofficial sister cities, are now moving forward. Medan, Indonesia, Galway, Ireland, uMhlathuze, South Africa, Zadar, Croatia and Bomet County, Kenya are Milwaukee’s current Sister Cities.

As part of the Tanzanian delegation’s visit to Milwaukee, the officials will also be visiting various businesses, organizations and institutions for education, art, economic, technical and municipal exchanges.

Alderman Stamper Holds Firm on 2017 Budget

Alderman Stamper voted to keep job creation and economic development as top priorities when he and his Common Council colleagues tallied final votes on the amended adopted city budget for 2017.

During the budget adoption meeting at City Hall in November, Alderman Stamper moved to help address systemic disparities in disadvantaged neighborhoods by voting for an amendment to repurpose $472,000 to support the Milwaukee Promise program. Neighborhoods will benefit from intensive efforts including the presence of beat patrol officers from May to October, neighborhood clean-ups, senior citizen homeowner assistance, various job training programs and a high impact service program.

Alderman Stamper also voted to support creating $600,000 in borrowing authority to fund the property owner portion of lead water service line replacements that will take place in 2017. Another amendment provides $150,000 to distribute water filters to households with lead water service lines and children who are under the age of six.

Other amendments set aside $500,000 for a future community disparity study (an amendment authored by Alderman Stamper), provided $50,000 for a new sexually-transmitted infection clinic, increased funding for MPS’s driver education program by $50,000 and helped fund a Midnight Basketball program for young people.

Alderman Stamper also fought to maintain key investigator positions in the Milwaukee Police Department, and he voted to set aside $150,000 to support neighborhood block watch efforts. The funds will pay for signage, cameras and additional street lighting in 15 neighborhoods which experience a high incidence of mobile drug-dealing.

The final amended 2017 budget is down nearly $13 million from the 2016 spending plan, a decrease of 0.8 percent, and the property tax levy will be cut $9.2 million. The property tax rate will climb only 5 cents to $10.66 per one thousand dollars of assessed value.
Alderman Stamper Welcomes Tricklebee Café to 15th District

Alderman Stamper said he is pleased that Tricklebee Café, a pay-what-you-can community restaurant, has opened in the 15th Aldermanic District at 4424 W. North Ave.

“This unique restaurant is a valuable new asset to the 15th District,” he said.

“It’s also a huge success for W. North Avenue Business Improvement District, where the café is located, and for the people who live in the surrounding neighborhoods.”

The café provides healthy, nutritious food for every customer regardless of their ability to pay. It also strives to be as local, organic and sustainable as possible and hosts community events like “Creativity Night Wednesdays” and a “Holiday Gift Market.”

Nosey Neighbor: Coming Soon to Our District

The City of Milwaukee will put $150,000 toward surveillance cameras and other efforts to support neighborhood block watches this year, under a budget amendment co-sponsored by Alderman Stamper.

“Sometimes the most effective way to combat neighborhood crime isn’t just to send in extra officers,” Alderman Stamper said, “but to mobilize the residents themselves against a criminal nuisance they would rather see go away.”

By fostering a more holistic approach to public safety, the council was able to set aside $150,000 to support neighborhood block watch efforts. The funds will pay for signage, cameras and additional street lighting in 15 neighborhoods which experience a high incidence of mobile drug-dealing.

“I have heard from residents who are frustrated with the criminal activity in their neighborhoods where the police cannot always respond in time,” Alderman Stamper said. “This measure empowers those neighbors to help serve as additional eyes and ears on their block.”

Residents who believe their block is in need of cameras or extra lighting should contact Alderman Stamper’s office to express their interest—286-2659 or Russell.Stamper@milwaukee.gov

Tandem Restaurant Brings New Flavor to Lindsay Heights

Nestled into the redeveloped former home of the Wally Schmidt Tavern at 1848 W. Fond du Lac Ave., Tandem Restaurant is offering a full service dining experience while creating opportunities for 25 neighborhood residents to work in the upscale eatery.

“Tandem is the first restaurant of its kind to open up shop in this area,” Alderman Stamper said. “I’m very impressed by their dedication to creating opportunities for local residents to find work, and I think they’re a great addition to the fabric of this growing neighborhood.”

The menu features Southern-style family entrees like fried chicken, but also utilizes locally-sourced ingredients to offer sustainable and healthy options for diners. Chef Caitlin Cullen launched the restaurant with the hope that it help draw additional development to Lindsay Heights, drawing on her experience working at some of Milwaukee’s finest restaurants.
Fondy Farmers Market to Expand to 4 Days a Week

Normally a Saturday staple from 9 a.m. to noon, the Fondy Farmers Market (2200 W. Fond du Lac Ave.) will be open 4 days a week starting June 17 until October 29. Shoppers will be able to get their favorite Fondy Farmers Market items on:

- **Saturday**: 7 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- **Sunday**: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- **Tuesday**: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- **Thursday**: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

The market offers farm-fresh produce (including asparagus and baby greens), honey, popcorn, eggs, plants for any garden, flower baskets, and homemade natural body care products. The market is covered, so customers can come rain or shine.

Go to [fondymarket.org](http://fondymarket.org) for more information about events and market offerings.

Earlier this year Alderman Stamper spoke during a special groundbreaking event for a new sustainable green space area near Fond du Lac and North. The new eco-park and community gathering space right next to the Fondy Farmers Market will be filled with sustainability features and will offer a new gathering space for Lindsay Heights and Fond du Lac Avenue area residents.