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- Steering and Rules Committee
- Wisconsin Center District Board

MILELE A. COGGS
ALDERWOMAN, 6TH DISTRICT

Ceremony held to dedicate statue to the late Welford Sanders

Statement of Alderwoman Milele A. Coggs October 28, 2021

Today a special ceremony was held to dedicate a statue in honor of the late Welford Sanders who served for 15 years as the executive director of the Martin Luther King Economic Development Corporation. The statue was dedicated in front of the appropriately named Welford Sanders Historic Lofts & Enterprise Center, a project that turned an old shoe factory in the Martin Luther King Jr. Drive corridor into apartments with affordable rents, in addition to office space for local agencies.

Mr. Sanders was truly a champion of the community and a visionary for the potential of King Drive. He led many redevelopment efforts, including the King Drive Commons and an array of projects in Harambee, and was always aiming high for what he thought could, and should be done to bring prosperity to the area.

Aside from his efforts in the development space, he is also remembered as a role model, staunch advocate for the people, and mentor to others.

I could not think of a better tribute for Mr. Sanders than the statue dedicated today that was created by artist Vinnie Bagwell. It will serve as a continued reminder of the impact he had, and continues to have, in and around King Drive.

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