



October 12, 2007

Ald. Michael Murphy
(414) 286-3763

Request for Proposals Deemed Success

Ald. Michael Murphy, chair of the Milwaukee Housing Trust Fund (HTF) Advisory Board is pleased with the number of proposals the HTF has received. With this week's deadline for submission, 21 proposals were received requesting a total of over \$5.6 million. On average, these dollars would leverage 15 times the city's investment.

Murphy said, "This kind of response demonstrates the urgency of housing needs in our community and the \$2.5 million program marks an important and innovative solution." Ald. Murphy added, "Affordable housing is the necessary first step toward combating many of the city's most difficult issues including crime and unemployment. Adequate and safe housing defines the quality of life and its impact on a city is immeasurable."

The Milwaukee Housing Trust Fund will provide for the construction, rehabilitation and accessibility modification of affordable housing for low- to moderate-income households in the city. The HTF Advisory Board will review the proposals and forward recommendations to the Common Council's Zoning, Neighborhoods & Development Committee in mid November.

Marcus White, executive director of the Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee said, "The high number of requests tells us there is tremendous need in the community and there are organizations willing to meet that need." White also noted that with this much interest, the HTF is vitally important, adding "The Housing Trust Fund puts the last piece of the puzzle in place to make these proposals viable."