



Robert Bauman

4th District Newsletter

Dear 4th District Residents:

This summer public safety has once again been a major concern in our neighborhoods. There is no doubt that public safety is the primary responsibility of city government. Maintaining public safety is also our greatest challenge because there are numerous causes of crime and disorder and changing human behavior to conform to societal norms is a daunting task.

Clearly, more effective law enforcement is one way to address crime and disorder. Several crime fighting initiatives were undertaken this summer including the **Neighborhood Safety Initiative** (the deployment of approximately 100 officers to conduct saturation patrols in various neighborhoods between the hours of 8 p.m. and 4 a.m.), increased foot and bicycle patrols, increased building and nuisance code enforcement, increased community prosecution unit actions, installation of pole mounted security cameras on public rights-of-way, neighborhood walks, block watch programs, and implementation of the city's traffic calming ordinance among others.

But in addition to beefed-up law enforcement, we also need to address crime and disorder through **economic development**. There is no doubt that poverty and unemployment contribute to crime and disorder. For this reason workforce development, job creation and business expansion have been priorities of mine. I have supported dozens of legislative actions that have increased job training and resulted in the retention and creation of thousands of family supporting jobs.

Finally, I have been a strong supporter of **improved and expanded public transit** in south-east Wisconsin, in part, to address the "worker-job" mismatch problem. Many thousands of unemployed and underemployed city residents, who do not have cars and/or valid licenses (21% of city households do not have automobiles), cannot get to jobs in the suburbs because of inadequate or non-existent public transit. In short, there is a growing "mismatch" between the place where potential workers live and the place where jobs are increasingly being offered. This mismatch exacerbates poverty and unemployment that in turn fuels crime and disorder. In short, improved and expanded public transit is another crime fighting tool.

This newsletter will address some of the law enforcement, legislative and economic development initiatives I have supported over the last several years. In addition the newsletter will review recent development activity in the district.

Once again, it remains a distinct honor to represent your interests as 4th District Alderman.

Sincerely,



Robert J. Bauman, Alderman - 4th District



Norris Playground Improvements Underway

A contractor was selected and asphalt removal and installation of turf at the Norris Playground began in September as phase one of the project got underway. The goal of this catalytic project is to develop **community green space** to meet the needs of the diverse residents of the neighborhood. Norris Playground occupies almost an entire city block bound by **W. State St., W. Kilbourn Ave., N. 19th St. and N. 18th St.** "This rehabilitation will convert an underutilized and blighted playlot into a highly utilized multi-purpose asset for the community and add value to the neighborhood," said Ald. Bauman.

The Norris Playground project is among the recommendations of the **Near West Side Comprehensive Plan**. "An appealing public space in this intensely developed area will not only add to the quality of life for neighbors, it could also encourage and support new infill single-family and duplex homes surrounding the community space," said Ald. Bauman.

The city **Department of Public Works** and **Department of City Development**, **Milwaukee Public Schools**, **Marquette University** and **Avenues West Association** worked together on a master plan for the site. Fundraising efforts continue for the second phase of the conversion which may include a rain garden, decorative fencing, bandstand and benches and lights along a pedestrian path.

Stunning Addition to E. Kilbourn Ave. Boulevard



A new boulevard landscape was completed in August along E. Kilbourn Ave. from N. Marshall St. to N. Prospect Ave. **It is the first boulevard in the history of the Milwaukee system to include a brick paved seating area** for citizens and visitors to enjoy the shade trees, ornamental flowering trees, flowering shrubs and perennials and masses of annual flowers.

With the help of the **Kilbourn Boulevard Advisory Committee**, and the urging of Ald. Bauman, city foresters developed a landscape plan last December and the work began in June. “This is another beautiful gateway to the City of Milwaukee and its downtown area and I want to thank the **City of Milwaukee Forestry Section** and everyone who contributed to the design and implementation of such a visually striking addition to the Milwaukee landscape,” said Ald. Bauman.

The boulevard segment on E. Kilbourn Ave. had been vacant for the past few years as the developer of the Kilbourn Tower Condominiums used the site for storage. An agreement with the city provided that the developer would pay for the restoration when construction was completed. In addition to the brick paved courtyard area, benches and plantings, the site includes a 60’ flagpole, a large open space and an automated irrigation system.



E. Kilbourn Ave. boulevard landscaping looking east towards lakefront and Kilbourn Tower.



New Amtrak Depot Taking Shape

Workers have been busy with the massive renovation and expansion of the downtown **Amtrak Depot** at 433 W. St. Paul Ave. The \$15 million project is transforming the busy depot into an **impressive gateway station** that welcomes travelers to a location close to the soon-to-be-completed Harley-Davidson Museum, the beautiful Sixth Street Bridge, the Milwaukee River and within walking distance of the Milwaukee Public Market, the Historic Third Ward and the Midwest Airlines Convention Center. Ald. Bauman’s early call for a major upgrade in the lackluster initial renovation design helped lead to a **doubling of the station’s public space and an overall improved design**. The project is expected to be a catalyst for additional housing and commercial development in that area, and major roadway improvements are also coming to the portion of N. 5th St. adjacent to the station. The project is scheduled for completion in late 2007.

Council Actions Will Create 11,000 Jobs To Boost Economy

Retaining family supporting jobs and creating new jobs are high priorities for the Milwaukee Common Council. And Ald. Bauman has been instrumental in both during his term of office.

A survey prepared by the Council's Legislative Reference Bureau gives the aldermen high marks for what they've been able to achieve in the area of job creation. Council actions on economic development projects approved since April 2004 are expected to result in the creation of 11,187 jobs by year 2011.

"This study shows that the Common Council's economic development tools such as Tax Incremental Financing (TIF), land sales and development fund grants, are producing results in terms of job creation and business expansion," Ald. Bauman said.

In addition to actions by the Council, the Milwaukee Economic Development Corp. extended more than \$61 million in loans to small businesses that resulted in the retention of 18,177 jobs.

Some examples of employment impacts by the Common Council:

Project	Jobs Impact
Badger Railing new Menomonee Valley facility	41
Cap/Tel/Ultratech expansion to Milwaukee	600
Chase Commerce Center	230
Cintas Laundry	125
Direct Supply expansion	2,081
Falk Corporation expansion	100
Harley-Davidson new museum	600
Manpower relocation to Milwaukee	1,200
Menomonee Valley Industrial Center	900
Palermo's Pizza new Menomonee Valley site	270



Meet LUKE

In June, the new multi-space parking meter, LUKE, was unveiled, and Ald. Bauman is pictured with one near E. St. Paul Ave. and N. Broadway. These multi-space meters are being installed around downtown and many are now fully functional. The meters accept cash as well as Visa and MasterCard credit and debit cards. Parking payments can be made at any LUKE meter; just enter the parking space number.



LUKE THE MULTI-SPACE PARKING METER

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Press the green "OK" button or any button on the key pad to start.
2. Enter parking space number followed by the green "OK" button.
3. Press "1" to "Purchase Time" to pay for a parking space or press "2" to "Add More Time" to pay for additional time for a space you already paid for.

To Pay With Coin

1. Insert coins for the desired amount of time.
2. Press the green "OK" button to complete transaction or the red "CANCEL" button to cancel transaction.
3. Take receipt from lower window.

To Pay With Credit/Debit Card

1. Insert and remove credit card. Wait seconds for processing.
2. Press "1" to add time desired (1 hour minimum) or press "9" for the maximum time allowed.
3. Press the green "OK" button to complete transaction or the red "CANCEL" button to cancel transaction.
4. Take receipt from lower window.

FEATURES

1. Pay at any LUKE meter that is the most conveniently located. Enter the parking space number.
2. Accepts MasterCard/ Visa credit/debit cards only.
3. Accepts 5c, 10c, 25c, or \$1.00 coins.
4. Provides receipt.
5. For convenience, receipt includes time when meter expires and space number.

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Actions Ald. Bauman Has Taken To Improve Public Safety

• Chronic Nuisance Premises

Modified the definition of "nuisance activity" to include crimes of violence, illegal possession of firearms, possession of counterfeit items and possession of and delivery of drug paraphernalia. (File #070318); Code of Ordinances Sec. 80-10

• Tenant Retaliation Ordinance

Prohibits a landlord from terminating the lease agreement or otherwise retaliating against a tenant for complaining of chronic nuisance violations to the police. A landlord may still evict a tenant for failure to pay rent, committing nuisance activity or violating terms of the lease. (File #050326; Code of Ordinances Sec. 80-10)

• Vacant Building Ordinance

Compels owners of vacant and boarded-up residential buildings to repair, demolish or sell their properties within six months instead of leaving them empty. (File #041383; Code of Ordinances Sec. 275-32)

• Traffic Calming

Created a process for residents to ask the city to construct a device, such as

a mini-roundabout or "speed hump" to reduce vehicle speeds on residential streets and improve pedestrian safety. (File #060658; Code of Ordinances Sec. 115-1)

• Shaming Ordinance

The "shaming" ordinance is meant to embarrass problem landlords into compliance. The city may post a large sign in front of a property with building code violations listing who owns the blighted property, their phone number and address. The new amendment calls for the posting even if the boarded unsafe or vacant noncompliant buildings have not been ordered closed or secured. (File #041044; Code of Ordinances Sec. 218-9-1)

• Video Security Requirements

Require digital security cameras and video recorders at convenience food stores to help insure the safety and welfare of residents. The ordinance also provides that owners of other retail establishments at which 3 or more crimes have occurred during a one-year period may be required to install digital cameras. (File #050287; Code of Ordinances Sec. 68-4 and 105-91)

“Clean Hands” Law Puts Permit Applicants On Notice

The City of Milwaukee now has an important new tool to use to collect delinquent property taxes and assessments, unpaid judgments and outstanding health and building code violations. The Common Council has approved an ordinance, authored by Ald. Bauman requiring applicants for various zoning actions and permits to submit a signed affidavit indicating whether they owe the city money for a wide range of violations, fines and judgments.

“It makes no sense for the City of Milwaukee to reward applicants with various zoning changes, special use permits and other privileges when they’re otherwise thumbing their noses at the city by dodging orders, not paying taxes and generally not satisfying their obligations to the city,” said Ald. Bauman. “This ordinance puts the onus on the applicant to disclose whether or not they have ‘clean hands’ when it comes to taxes, fines and code violations.”

New Special Event Parking Plan To Ease Parking Crunch

The Common Council has approved a **pilot program** designed to make special event parking restrictions in the 4th Aldermanic District easier to deal with and more accommodating for residents and businesses. The district includes downtown, the Historic Third Ward and lakefront-adjacent areas that are buzzing with special events during the spring, summer and fall.

Special events such as parades, bicycle races and running events currently have plenty of signs telling people what the parking restrictions are, but the signs typically do not include the date or the time the events start and end. That leaves restrictions in place longer than necessary said Ald. Bauman, chief sponsor of the program.

“These special event restrictions have caused many headaches for residents and businesses owners who rely on street parking and end up seeing cars towed because they thought they had an extra hour or two to move it,” Ald. Bauman said. **The pilot program requires the city to have clear signage citing an event date and the actual time when an event will start and end.** The alderman said that should clear up the mystery about when cars have to be moved and when they can again park legally on the affected streets.

Holiday Parking Gift

Ald. Bauman wants to remind residents that the spirit of giving during the Christmas season will again not include “giving” to city parking meters.

Thanks to an ordinance change sponsored by Ald. Bauman, the Department of Public Works will not enforce parking meter regulations on Christmas Day, December 25th, New Years Day, January 1, 2008 and the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday on January 21, 2008.

Most residents have always assumed that parking meter regulations did not apply on the three holidays but that was not the case. “In the spirit of the season the city is again offering this present to those who have to plug the parking meters on every other weekday of the year,” Ald. Bauman said.

Not Too Late To Make Plans For Winter

While still a few months away, winter will arrive in Milwaukee, and that means we can expect some snow emergencies. So Ald. Bauman wants to remind all residents of some of the requirements during snow and ice control operations.

Remember that public safety is the first priority during snow and ice control on the city’s 1,400 miles of city streets. Streets are prioritized based on traffic volume, public transportation routes, access to emergency services and schools.

Parked and abandoned cars are the single biggest problem in snow plowing. Motorists should look for signs describing the parking restrictions along streets that are affected by winter rules. **These possible restrictions could include:**

The 4” Rule - Certain residential streets are posted “No Parking When 4” of Snow or More.” No parking is allowed on the side of the street where the sign is posted until snow has been removed.

Specific Side Parking - No parking on one or both sides of the street Dec. 1 - March 1. No parking on one or both sides of a street during a particular winter month, such as December or January.

Move Your Car To Help Snow Removal - The Milwaukee Public Schools make a number of school playgrounds available for overnight parking during snow emergencies. Call the DPW Information Center at 286-8282 for the location of a playground nearest your home.

Shovel Your Sidewalks - Property owners and occupants are required by city law to clear sidewalks abutting their property of snow or ice within 24 hours after the snow and ice have stopped falling. Failure to do so could result in the city doing it and charging you.

Garbage Collection - Because sanitation crews who collect garbage and recycling materials also plow snow, collection days may change during the winter. And a labor agreement provides that there are no collections when the air temperature (not wind chill) at 6:00 a.m. is -10 degrees or colder.



District Developments

Investments Bring New Housing To The 4th District

In light of Ald. Bauman’s strong commitment to preserving and expanding 4th District housing stock, recent development activity by **Milwaukee’s Housing Authority** is very good news. Four different development projects have added dozens of new single-family homes and two state-of-the-art apartment buildings for the elderly and persons with disabilities while removing several dilapidated multiple unit apartment buildings.

“I am extremely pleased with the new housing. The units are well built, designed to blend in with the existing housing stock, accessible to persons with disabilities, and incorporate various ‘green’ building practices,” Ald. Bauman said.



Highland Park Towers Come Down

Crews razed the former Highland Park public housing apartment towers at N. 17th St. and W. Juneau Ave. earlier this year to help make way for the Highland Homes development.



Highland Gardens

The Highland Gardens apartment building at 1818 W. Juneau Ave. is **Milwaukee’s first “green” public housing development**. Sustainability efforts include daylighting, a green roof, rain garden, salvaged materials used in construction and other energy-efficient and environmentally friendly design techniques.



Highland Homes

The Highland Homes development will include **46 homes on scattered site lots** in the neighborhood surrounding Highland Gardens that reflect the city’s traditional architectural styles. Housing Authority plans call for about half of the homes, which will be ADA-compliant, to be sold on the open market.

Ald. Bauman called the Highland Gardens and Highland Homes development, bounded by W. Juneau Ave. on the south, W. McKinley Ave. on the north, N. 20th St. on the west and N. 17th St. on the east, a welcome shift from public housing of the past, which often had a cold, industrial feel.



Cherry Court

Cherry Court is a new mid-rise apartment building with **120 one-bedroom units for the elderly and persons with disabilities**. It was designed with input from residents, neighbors, service providers and others in the community to meet the real day-to-day needs of persons with disabilities. It features a number of sustainable design elements that contribute to the conservation of energy and other natural resources. The development includes the apartment building and six single-family homes, two of which will be rentals and four which will be sold at market rate.



Ald. Bauman spoke at ceremonies for the grand opening of Cherry Court. He was joined by Mayor Barrett and Council President Willie Hines at the event at Cherry Court, 1525 N. 24th St.

Cherry Court In-fill housing

In addition to the Cherry Court apartment complex, the new development re-integrates residents into the surrounding neighborhoods. The Housing Authority plans construction of **77 single-family houses** within a two-mile radius of Cherry Court that will be a mix of rental and owner-occupied market rate homes.



Check out the city's website at:
www.milwaukee.gov

For Ald. Bauman's website and more info. on the 4th District go to:
www.milwaukee.gov/district4



Avenues West Neighborhood Walk-Through

Ald. Bauman (left) took part in a mid-day neighborhood walk in late August in the **Avenues West Neighborhood**. The group included **Mayor Tom Barrett, MPD District Three Captain James Harpole**, a few dozen residents and representatives from the Avenues West Association, as well as other MPD officers, a key **Community Prosecution Unit official** and representatives of several city departments. The group surveyed conditions on several streets, including properties where nuisance and crime problems had prompted city actions against property owners.

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Video Surveillance Cameras Keeping Watch

There are some unique high-tech eyes scanning several high profile and high crime areas in the 4th Aldermanic District and elsewhere in the city.

Pole-mounted video surveillance cameras are now keeping watch on a number of crime-plagued neighborhoods.

“These pole mounted cameras will be monitored by police personnel in real time, thereby enabling police squads to be dispatched to the location when criminal behavior is observed. The cameras will also be used in criminal investigations and serve as a deterrent to criminal behavior,” the alderman said.

The cameras installed at N. 27th St. and W. Wells in the 4th District and another at N. 60th and W. Silver Spring Dr. are now operational. Four more were to be installed during August

at S. 23rd and W. Greenfield Ave., N. 27th St. and W. Burleigh St., N. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr. and W. Center St. and S. 16th St. and W. Lincoln Ave.

The police department reports that during a surveillance camera demonstration last year, the system assisted the **Criminal Investigation Bureau** in locating a homicide suspect, an arrest that led to information on a second homicide. On another occasion, “suspicious activity” observed on the system resulted in arrests for strongarm robbery.

“I support this camera initiative because the cameras will be another crime fighting tool to supplement the other efforts the city has undertaken over the last several years,” the alderman said.

Testing will continue as each camera is installed to insure proper installation,



integration and video quality. Other locations where the surveillance cameras are planned are the intersections of S. Layton Ave. and W. National Ave., N. 35th St. and W. Garfield Ave., N. Teutonia Ave. and W. Capitol Dr., W. Hampton Ave. and N. Hopkins St. and N. 7th St. and W. Wisconsin Ave.

These initial cameras are a pilot project that will tell us whether additional investment in surveillance cameras is warranted.