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ROBERT J. BAUMAN
ALDERMAN, 4TH DISTRICT

April 17, 2006

RE: Connector/Commuter Rail

Dear Colleagues:

I am writing to advise you that I have introduced file #051714 which is a resolution expressing the City of Milwaukee's support for development of commuter rail service within Milwaukee County. In a nutshell, I am proposing that the \$91.5 Million in federal funds that have been set aside for public transit improvements in Milwaukee be spent on expanding the Racine-Kenosha-Milwaukee commuter rail line within Milwaukee County to include service along the 30th Street Rail Corridor and the West Allis Air Line Rail Corridor.

The resolution speaks for itself so I won't go on at length explaining my rationale. Suffice it to say that commuter rail uses existing rail lines, not city streets; can operate at much higher speeds than guided buses; will actually connect central city neighborhoods with outlying areas of Milwaukee County; will not require cuts in existing bus service; will not eliminate parking; will not require the demolition of \$17.2 Million of streetscaping work; and has broad bi-partisan support. Moreover, commuter rail service would be less costly to construct than guided buses.

We can use the \$91.5 Million in federal funds for commuter rail by amending the April 20, 1999 agreement that allocated the \$241 Million of ICE money. I have reviewed all of the documents surrounding this 1999 agreement. I would be happy to share them with all of you.

I invite all of you to join me in co-sponsoring this resolution.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Robert J. Bauman'.

Robert J. Bauman
Alderman, 4th District