

Executive Update

Milwaukee County Executive Scott Walker's Weekly Newsletter

May 16, 2008

Message from County Executive Walker

Years ago, after the pension mess, one of the bond rating agencies for Milwaukee County (Moody's) assigned a negative outlook to our county. Now, the same agency is lifting the negative outlook and giving us a stable rating.

Moody's indicated that we made significant progress in reducing the county's largest expenditure pressures in regards to the pension system and employee and retiree health care costs.

And according to Standard & Poor's Financial Management Assessment, Milwaukee County's financial management practices are considered "strong."

In contrast, the State of Wisconsin faces a structural deficit of more than \$1.7 billion. Milwaukee County, on the other hand, finished the year with a \$7 million surplus.

This success comes from a team effort – our administration, County Board leadership and staff. While we still have work to do, these reports show that our fiscal ship is headed in the right direction.

Scott



3 Positive Bond Ratings

<http://www.biztimes.com/daily/2008/5/14/milwaukee-countys-financial-health-improves>

http://milwaukee.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/stories/2008/05/12/daily51.html?jst=b_in_hl

Law Enforcement Memorial Ceremony



County Executive Walker spoke on Wednesday at the Law Enforcement Memorial Ceremony honoring all members of the police force, especially those who died in the line of duty. Among the other honored guests and speakers was the daughter of a fallen officer, Mayor Tom Barrett and Governor Jim Doyle.

To end the ceremony, wreaths were brought forth as a symbol of the fallen officers' final role call. The wreaths were brought forward by members of the police force and escorted by family members of the officers.

Launch of Daniel M. Soref Planetarium at Milwaukee Public Museum

This week the Milwaukee Public Museum officially opened the Daniel M. Soref Planetarium on Wednesday where the County Executive spoke during the opening ceremony. To help the launch, there were a number of second and third grade students from



McNair Academy dressed in spacesuits. In addition, Museum President Dan Finley and Mayor Tom Barrett were in attendance. This program included the unveiling of a donor wall to thank the Daniel M. Soref Foundation, a

ceremonial countdown and shuttle launch and a special screening in the Planetarium. This planetarium is the largest in Wisconsin and one of the most technologically advanced in the Midwest.

Breakfast with the Boss

Monday morning County Executive Walker attended and spoke at the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) breakfast where employers can receive information and support about the vital role of their guard and reserve employees.



Taking Back the Parks and Lakefront



County Executive Walker joined with Sheriff David A. Clarke Jr. and Parks Director Sue Black to announce the new enforcement policies going into effect for the coming summer season in Milwaukee County Parks and lakefront. These policies will provide more patrols throughout the parks and lakefront by putting more officers on duty in designated areas and ensuring that our parks are enjoyed by all this summer.

Community Events

This week County Executive Walker continued to promote his ideas of bus innovations throughout the community. On Monday Mr. Walker presented his plan for the use of hybrid buses to members of the local government at the ICC. Today, Friday May 16th, is also wear red for women's issues day sponsored by many health organizations including the American Heart Association, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute; Office on Women's Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; WomenHeart: the National Coalition for Women with Heart Disease.