

Executive Update



Milwaukee County Executive Scott Walker's Weekly Newsletter

October 2, 2009

Message from County Executive Walker

A few more thoughts about our 2010 budget:

Affordable: *No tax levy increase from the previous year and no sales tax increase or new wheel tax. Minus the accelerated building plan (see below), the spending authority in the proposed budget goes down .6%.*

Jobs: *The budget creates a new Milwaukee County Works office and includes an accelerated building plan that will start some 100 projects in 2010 that will create some 1,000 jobs.*

These are projects that would have been done in capital budgets in 2010, 2011 and 2012. Instead, we use low-interest bonds (which saves up to \$3 million in interest) to do it all by the end of next year. And in 2012, the county's outstanding debt will be 28% lower than in 2002 under our plan.

More jobs + Reduced interest costs + Lower outstanding debt = GOOD DEAL for taxpayers.

Quality of Life: *Our budget adds tools for the Sheriff, supports the DA and maintains EMS services. We maintain (and grow) safety net services for older adults, veterans, those suffering from mental illness and people with developmental and physical disabilities.*

Our budget spends \$38 million on improvements in the parks by fixing bathrooms, playground equipment and parkways – as well as building new aquatic centers and splash pads. And we add

investments in the Zoo and include a plan to move to a non-profit to run the Zoo (like San Diego, Brookfield/Chicago and others).

We also increase our support for the airport and maintain our bus routes while adding a new Bus Rapid Transit line from the county grounds through downtown Milwaukee to UW-Milwaukee.

Reforms: *This budget makes major, structural changes in wage and benefit packages, land sales, sales tax revenues, parks revenues and public/private partnerships. These reforms will not only balance the 2010 budget but also address the long-term structural changes needed to keep Milwaukee County going into the future.*

Scott

Baby Tigers at the Zoo



The Milwaukee County Zoo is pleased to announce two Amur (Siberian) tigers have been born at the zoo and are now on public exhibit. The two female cubs, which are not yet named, were born July 8. The cubs venture into their indoor exhibit between 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. and make unscheduled appearances throughout the day.

Flight for Life – 25 years



County Executive Walker recently addressed the attendees at the 25th Year Celebration of Flight For Life, an operation of the Milwaukee Regional Medical Center that is now based at the Waukesha County Airport. Flight For Life has transported more than 27,000 patients since its inception.

Combined Giving



County Executive Walker and Palermo's Pizza employees served pizza donated by Palermo's at the county executive's office to raise funds for the annual Combined Giving Campaign. Four umbrella groups benefit from the campaign: Community Shares of Greater Milwaukee, Community Health Charities, Hunger Relief Fund of Wisconsin and United Way.

Community Events

County Executive Walker participated in a news conference with the Federal Treasurer's Department at Palermo's for the announcement of awards totaling \$53 million to build Community Development Financial Institutions in Milwaukee.

Concert Series at Domes

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Schedule subject to change.
For updates, visit countyparks.com

OCTOBER

- 01 Eddie Butts Band, *Jazz/Pop/R&B*
- 06 Reverend Raven
& The Chain Smoking Altar Boys
Chicago Blues
- 08 KT's Universal Love Band
World Music
- 13 Chasin' Mason
Country with Rock 'n Roll
- 15 Rick Holmes & The Blues Review
Many hues of the Blues
- 20 The Britins
Beatles tribute band
- 22 Frogwater
Bluegrass/Celtic/Blues
- 27 Kojo, *Reggae/Calypso/Ska*
- 29 The 5 Card Studs, *Lounge Band*

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