



DIMITRIJEVIC REPORT

September 2010 E-News

Dear Friends,

I am looking forward to another beautiful fall in Milwaukee.
In this E-News issue you will find:

Milwaukee County Board Responsibilities

Vice-Chairwoman, Health & Human Needs Committee

Parks, Energy, & Environment Committee

Intergovernmental Relations Committee

Transportation, Public Works & Transit Committee

Milwaukee County Commission on Aging

Lakefront Development Advisory Commission

Chair Committee on County Board Information Technology

Community Memberships

Bay View Neighborhood Association

Honorary Capital Campaign Committee, Bay View Historical Society

South Shore Park Watch

Bay View Lions Club

Clarke Square Weed & Seed Steering Committee

Inter-Organizational Council of Bay View

Bay View High School Alumni Association

9 to 5, National Association of Working Women

South Side Scholarship Foundation

City of Milwaukee Affordable Housing Task Force

Bay View Manufacturers & Commerce Association

Bay View Historical Society

The Association of Marquette University Women

Sierra Club

Board of Directors, Emerge Wisconsin

American Council of Young Political Leaders

UMOS Community Service Block Grant Advisory Committee

Majority of County Supervisors Support Constructing a New Mental Health Facility

Photo: Press Conference at Mental Health Facility

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Primary Elections, Where to Vote

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Majority of County Supervisors Support Constructing a New Mental Health Facility

A majority of the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors announced that a new state-of-the-art mental health facility will be constructed on the Milwaukee County Grounds in Wauwatosa. “It’s time we move forward with plans to modernize our facility. With our coalition, we are now setting a clear policy for the future of mental health care in Milwaukee County,” said Supervisor Marina Dimitrijevic, Vice-Chair of the County Board’s Health and Human Needs Committee.

The current mental health complex was built in three phases from 1968-1979. Approximately \$10.8 million remains in the 2010 budget for the planning, design and construction of a new Behavioral Health Division (BHD) facility. The resolution calls for the formation of a Special Committee, to be appointed by Chairman Holloway, to accomplish the following by June 1, 2011:

1. Examine current and potential operating revenues and evaluate the merits of locating some functions of BHD, such as the nursing home and outpatient services, at sites other than the County Grounds in a manner that is more integrated with the community and perhaps more cost effective.
2. Utilize, reassess and update previously gathered information regarding BHD space needs to provide a preliminary cost analysis of the cost to build a new facility on the County Grounds.

3. Provide possible locations on the County Grounds for a new facility.

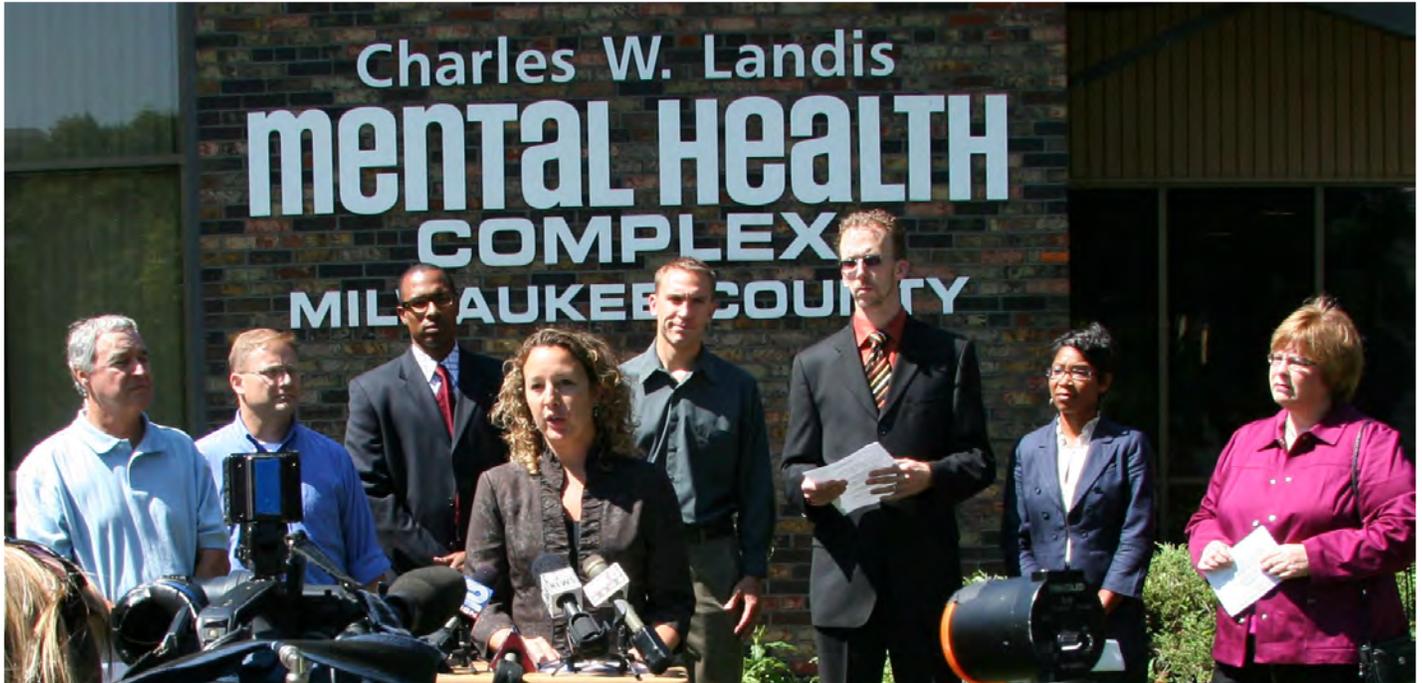
4. Recommend other funding sources and a timeline for this project.

5. Obtain and analyze other information as requested by members of the Special Committee.

The resolution, sponsored by Chairman Holloway along with Supervisors Dimitrijevic, Schmitt, Lipscomb, Weishan, De Bruin, Gerry Broderick, Johnny L. Thomas, Chris Larson, Nikiya Harris, Willie Johnson, Jr., and Mark Borkowski, will be considered during the September Committee cycle and could be approved by the full County Board as early as September 30, 2010.

The Board’s decision to build a new facility is the latest in a series of efforts to modernize the delivery of care to individuals with mental illness in Milwaukee County. In May, the County Board created a Mental Health Community Advisory Board, along with three related Work Groups, to recommend policies and procedures to ensure the safety of patients within the Behavioral Health Complex. The Board also approved \$1.8 million in funds to address capital needs at the current facility. Milwaukee County has also led the way in providing affordable inclusive housing for individuals with mental illness. Since 2007, more than 260 units of quality affordable housing have been developed for individuals with nowhere else to turn.

Photo: Press Conference at Mental Health Facility



On August 27th at the current Mental Health Complex, Supervisor Dimitrijevic announces that a majority of County Supervisors support constructing a new, state-of-the art, mental

health facility at the Milwaukee County Grounds. From the Left: Supervisors: Schmitt, Weishan, Thomas, Dimitrijevic, Larson, Lipscomb, Harris & DeBruin.

The 2011 Milwaukee County Budget Process

On September 30th, 2010 the County Executive will present the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors his 2011 Recommended Budget. I am looking forward to your input in this important process and as in previous years, I will be hosting budget listening sessions throughout our neighborhood. Please see the timeline below for important budget dates and meetings you can participate in.

Pre-cycle Public hearings will be held:
Thursday, September 16
Mary Ryan Boys and Girls Club
3000 N. Sherman Boulevard, Milwaukee
6:00 p.m - 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, September 21
Kosciuszko Community Center
2201 s. 7th Street, Milwaukee
6:00 p.m - 7:30 p.m.

Once the Budget cycle starts the schedule will be as follows:

- Sep 30 County Executive presents Budget to County Board
- Nov 1 Public Budget Hearing 7 p.m. in Washington Park Senior Center, 4420 W. Vliet St.
- Nov 8 County Board Budget Adoption Vote
- Nov 17 Budget Veto Override Vote (if necessary)

Bay View Bash Details

Supervisor Dimitrijevic will be at this year's Bay View Bash, which will be held on September 18, from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Kinnickinnic Ave between Potter and Clement. The Bay View Bash is a festival of food, art, and community; it is Milwaukee's largest all-volunteer street festival.



Supervisors Larson & Dimitrijevic at the 2009 Bay View Bash

Children's Area Stage

Rhythms & Tunes with Ms. Taku

12:00pm

Rainbow Randa

1:00

Princess of Magic

2:00

Rhythms & Tunes with Ms. Taku

3:00

Rainbow Randa

4:00

TBA

5:00

Demonstration Stage

Society of Creative Anachronism

11:00 a.m.

Strong Man Competition

12:00 p.m. - 1:30

Society of Creative Anachronism

2:30

Dead Man's Carnival

3:30-6:30

**The Shepherd Express & 88.9 Radio Milwaukee
(South Stage)**

BSG

11:30 a.m. - 2:30p.m.

Joyride

3:00 - 5:30

Brandon James

6:00 - 7:30

Bad Boy All-Stars f/ Steve Grimm and Scotty B.

8:00 - 10:00

**Groppi's Food Market & OnMilwaukee.com
(North Stage)**

Aqua Nauts

12:00pm - 1:00

Dick Satan Trio

1:15 - 2:15

1956

2:30 - 3:30

Wild Ghosts

3:45 - 4:45

When Water Turns to Air

5:30 - 6:30

Lova Nova

6:30 - 8:15

Happy Talk Band

8:30 - 10:00

**Gruber Law & The Wisconsin Gazette
(Middle Stage)**

David Drake

11am - 12:30pm

Annie B.

1:00 - 2:30

Rachel Trapp and Cole Waters

3:00 - 4:30

Mojo Perry

5:00 - 6:30

Jimmy @ the Prom

7:00 - 8:00

Herman Astro

8:30 - 10:00

State-of-Art Complex Needed to Provide Care to be Proud of

Posted Sept 4, 2010 Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

By Marina Dimitrijevic

The County Board is exhibiting true leadership by supporting landmark legislation, a roadmap to construct a new, state-of-the-art Mental Health Complex on the County Grounds in Wauwatosa. We are gaining momentum in assembling a supermajority of the County Board, including our lead sponsor, County Board Chairman Lee Holloway.

A new facility will allow for better patient oversight and a higher level of safety for both patients and staff. The current Mental Health Complex was built in the 1970s, and was recently cited for more than 100 code violations. Its dated design does not allow for modern patient care practices, making it difficult to attract top-notch doctors and nurses. That's why the County Board approved setting aside \$12 million in the 2010 budget to begin the process of building new.

We now have a diverse and powerful County Board coalition ready to use these funds for the planning, design and construction of a new Mental Health Complex.

A key provision in our plan calls for the formation of a Special Study Committee, to be appointed by Holloway. This committee will seek input from community experts, the Public Policy Forum and the county's Department of Audit to consider space needs, cost estimates for building a new facility, potential funding sources and identifying a site on the County Grounds.

Mental health care should not be isolated. It makes sense to build a new facility on the County Grounds, which already contains a significant concentration of health care institutions.

Building from scratch is better than a retrofit. The proposal to rehab the former St. Michael Hospital was short-sighted and not fully thought out. It was a lease rather than a purchase, was a no-bid contract, is not located on land already owned by the county, is older than our current facility and was too costly to renovate. Because of these factors, building new simply makes more sense.

The County Board's positive track record on mental health is clear. In May, after learning of assaults and mismanagement at the Mental Health Complex, the County Board created a Mental Health Community Advisory Board to recommend policies and procedures to ensure the safety of our patients. Milwaukee County also has led the way in providing 260 units of quality affordable inclusive housing for individuals with mental illness since 2007.

The truth must be told. The county executive has a record of cutting critical mental health services that promote independence, provide rehabilitation and preserve individual integrity and dignity. He vetoed funding in the 2010 budget for a number of programs, including the Community Alcohol and Other Drug Addiction program, Targeted Case Management and the Community Support Program. The board voted to override all of those irresponsible vetoes. These programs provide true rehabilitation and help the county avoid more expensive hospital stays.

In the end, isn't that what we all seek?

In October 2008, the county executive vetoed a County Board initiative to build a new mental health facility on the County Grounds, stating that it was cost prohibitive. This was a major setback. While I am pleased that he has completely changed his position and now supports building a new facility, it would have been nice if he had reached this conclusion sooner.

Our County Board coalition realizes the urgency of improving the way we deliver mental health services. We are not moving too fast.

The time is now. No other solutions or alternatives have emerged. The goal of our coalition is to provide mental health care that will make us all proud.

Supervisor Marina Dimitrijevic represents parts of Milwaukee's Bay View and near South Side neighborhoods and is vice chairwoman of the County Board's Health & Human Needs Committee.

Supervisor Dimitrijevic's Legislation to Provide Online Access to Campaign Finance Reports Enacted

Following a unanimous vote of approval by the County Board, online access to campaign finance records for Milwaukee County elected officials are now available online. The resolution authored by Supervisor Dimitrijevic stated that online access would begin in September. We are working on a long-term solution and modernization plan but in the meantime the public can still easily view these records.

"This is another key step in opening up our government to the people that we serve" said Supervisor Dimitrijevic. "As Chairwoman of the Committee on Information Technology, I am continuing my quest to providing more information to the public while reducing paper usage and lowering costs."

Primary Elections, Where to Vote

The Primary Election is Tuesday, September 14. Not sure where you vote? Click [here](#) to find out where you vote, if you reside within the City of

Milwaukee.
<http://itmdapps.ci.mil.wi.us/electedreps/electrep.jsp>