



County Report

Milwaukee County Supervisor

Jim Luigi Schmitt

19TH DISTRICT

Fall 2009

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Supervisor
Schmitt**

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**Visit my Milwaukee
County Website**

www.milwaukee.gov/Schmitt



Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to serve as your representative on the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors.

In this newsletter, you will find the latest on the formidable budget challenges facing Milwaukee County and how you can participate in the County Board's 2010 Budget process. I sit on the Finance & Audit Committee, and your taxes will be a focal point for me as I cast budget votes on your behalf. There is also an update on the Milwaukee County Grounds, including the agreement to sell a portion of the land to the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee to develop an engineering campus. In addition to serving on the Milwaukee County Research Park Board, I am also a Board member of the Milwaukee County Historical Society and the Milwaukee Public Museum.

As Chairman of the County Board's Intergovernmental Relations Committee, I have taken the lead in working with the State and Federal governments to ensure that Milwaukee County is treated fairly and provided the necessary resources to carry out mandated services. Unfortunately, the State fails to provide us with enough funding to carry out those mandates. We must receive a fair return on the taxes we all pay. Since less than 19 cents on every dollar spent by Milwaukee County comes from property tax revenue, State and Federal support is critical to maintaining our programs and services.

Finally, it's always a pleasure to hear from you. Please call my office anytime to discuss the many issues we are tackling in Milwaukee County. As the weather cools off and we approach the holidays, please accept my best wishes for you and your family as we head into 2010.

Sincerely,
Jim "Luigi" Schmitt
Milwaukee County Supervisor, 19th District



COUNTY BOARD APPROVES SALE TO UWM

The County Board has approved the sale of 58 acres of the County Grounds to the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (UWM) for \$13,550,000. This land will be developed into an engineering campus and Innovation Business Park. The sale included an additional 13.3 acres of conservancy land as a buffer next to newly designated County parkland. The picture, at left, displays the initial plans provided by UWM.

This sale also included the following requirements:

- 1) The final plans must receive zoning approval from the City of Wauwatosa.
- 2) The historical buildings must be preserved.
- 3) A landscaping plan must be approved by the County Board and the City of Wauwatosa, including the plan's impact on butterfly migration areas.

For further information, you can contact UWM Foundation Executive Director David Gilbert at 414-229-4331 or www.uwmfdn.org, or Nancy Welch, Director of the Wauwatosa Department of Community Development, at 414-479-8957 or www.wauwatosa.net.

TOSA SCHOOL OF THE TRADES

In August, Supervisor Schmitt was on hand at the ribbon cutting ceremony for the grand opening of the Tosa School of the Trades, a charter school within the Wauwatosa School District. The school, which serves 11th and 12th graders, is located in the lower level of the Fisher administrative building near 121st and North. The Principal of this charter school is Jason Zurawik.

The School of the Trades provides students with high-level academic, technical and employment skills that build successful careers in the fast-growing mechanical and building trades fields. Students are trained by professional trade instructors dedicated to the mastery of skills within the carpentry, plumbing and electrical trades. That training allows students to earn hours toward the State of Wisconsin Apprenticeship Program and begin their journey toward a lucrative lifelong career. Core subject instruction holds students to rigorous academic standards required in today's skilled-trade industry. Given these opportunities, the School of the Trades represents a unique, real-world bridge absent in many traditional academic settings and sorely needed throughout the state of Wisconsin and the nation.



Supervisor Schmitt pictured with Patricia Luebke, Principal of Tosa West High School, and Nick Hughes, Principal of Tosa East.

SCHMITT WORKS TO BALANCE 2010 COUNTY BUDGET

Aims to protect taxpayers from expected shortfalls

On September 24, the County Executive submitted his 2010 Recommended Budget to the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors. The County Board will hold budget hearings throughout October and adopt a budget on November 9. A public hearing will be held on Monday, November 2 at 7:00 p.m. at the Washington Park Senior Center to hear your comments on the proposed budget.

The economic recession has affected all of us, including County government. State aid has been reduced and local revenues, such as sales tax collections, have plummeted. Yet, the need for many social safety net programs that the County provides has risen as people have lost jobs and homes to foreclosure. While I am optimistic that the economy will improve over the next year, the challenge of putting together an affordable 2010 budget that meets the needs of our community will be very difficult.

The County Executive proposes to reduce the wages and benefits of the remaining employees by approximately 13 to 16 percent next year. Although this proposal is extremely difficult for workers, I will seriously consider these changes. Having said that, these reductions are sizeable and may not be fully achieved because 85 percent of the County workforce is subject to collective bargaining contracts. To the extent wage and benefit savings are not achieved, further program and service cuts may be unavoidable. The County Executive's proposed budget also suggests privatizing many functions currently performed by County employees, such as housekeeping and security, and replacing them with private sector contracts. Coupled with proposed layoffs for other County employees, over 300 people are at risk for losing their job. I will ask questions to better understand the potential savings as well as the impact on programs and services.

Last year, I voted against raising the tax levy by 3.1% because I supported less costly alternatives that would have reduced the property tax burden on homeowners. This year, I will continue to seek less costly ways to operate County government in the 2010 Budget while maintaining critical programs and services. This includes support for our nationally acclaimed County Paramedic program, and other public safety priorities such as Sheriff patrols. Funding for our parks and transit system will also be a major issue this fall.

I am pleased that the 2010 Recommended Budget includes \$1.5 million in funding that, together with generous private donations, will allow for the reconstruction of Hoyt Park Aquatic Center. So many people have worked tirelessly to reopen Hoyt Park pool and we will be much closer if this capital improvement project is approved and started in 2010. Another budget proposal is to privatize the Milwaukee County Zoo. There are benefits and disadvantages to this potential change, but I will keep an open mind when considering how to improve this cherished attraction.

I encourage all of you to get in touch with me on these difficult budget decisions. I appreciate hearing your thoughts and suggestions on the 2010 County Budget. Please contact me if you need additional information.

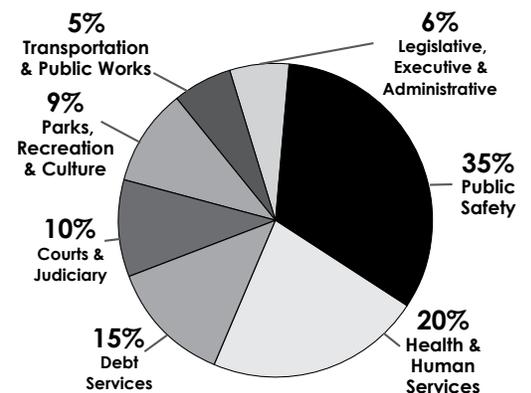
2009 Total Percent Amount of Taxes Per Taxing Authority

Milwaukee County represents 16% of your tax dollar



* State of Wisconsin share is approximately one cent
* Total may not add to \$1.00 due to rounding

MILWAUKEE COUNTY PROPERTY TAX LEVY DISTRIBUTION



PUBLIC HEARING

The Milwaukee County Executive's 2010 Recommended Budget including amendments by the Committee on Finance and Audit

**Monday, November 2, 2009
7:00 p.m.**

Washington Park Senior Center
4420 West Vliet Street, Milwaukee, WI
(414) 933-2332



Milwaukee County Supervisor

Jim Luigi Schmitt

19TH DISTRICT

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US POSTAGE
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MILWAUKEE, WI
PERMIT 1630



Milwaukee County Courthouse
901 N. 9th Street RM 201
Milwaukee, WI 53233

Milwaukee County FREE Days!

Complimentary admission to Milwaukee County Residents only with valid photo ID on the following days:



MILWAUKEE ART MUSEUM
FREE Every Wednesday!
excludes special exhibits



MITCHELL PARK DOMES
FREE Every Monday!
from 9:00 a.m. - Noon
except major holidays



Milwaukee Public MUSEUM
A World of Difference
FREE Every Monday!
additional charges apply for the
Humphrey IMAX Dome, Daniel M. Soref
Planetarium & special exhibitions



2010 FREE Days
January 2, February 6, March 6, April 10,
November 6, December 4, Thanksgiving Day,
Christmas Day & New Year's Day

Service Guide for 19th District Milwaukee County Residents

19th District Milwaukee County Supervisor

Jim "Luigi" Schmitt..... 278-4273
Legislative Assistant Terri Lukaszewski 278-4751

Airports

Mitchell International Airport..... 747-5300
Timmerman Airport 461-3222

County Clerk 278-4067

County Executive 278-4211

County Treasurer..... 278-4033

Courts

Small Claims 278-4140
Civil Division..... 278-4120
Criminal Division 278-4538
Children Court 257-7700

Department on Aging

General Information 289-6874

Department of Audit Fraud Hotline 93-FRAUD

Department of Child Support Enforcement..... 278-5160

Department of Health and Human Services

..... 1-888-947-6583

District Attorney's Office

John Chisholm..... 278-4653

Election Commission 278-4060

Emergency/Public Safety

Sheriff (non-emergency)..... 278-4766
Burn Center Hotline (24 hours)..... 272-2876
Emergency Management 278-4709
Poison Center 266-2222
Suicide Prevention/Intervention
Mental Health Crisis 257-7222

Home Improvement Loans..... 289-6780

House of Correction

General and Visiting Information 427-4700

Jury Services

General Information 278-4468
Emergency Call..... 278-4621
Reserve Juror Message 985-6200/958-6000

Low Income Housing

Rent Assistance 289-5894

Marcus Center for the Performing Arts 273-7206

Marriage Licenses 278-4070

Medical Examiner

General Information 223-1216

Mental Health Complex

General Information 257-6995
Admitting..... 257-7260
TTY-TDD Hotline..... 257-7112

Milwaukee Art Museum

General Information 224-3220

Milwaukee County Historical Society 273-8288

Milwaukee County Parks

Boerner Botanical Gardens 525-5600
General Information 257-PARK/257-7275
Golf Reservations..... 475-6222

Web Page: www.countyparks.com/golf

Mitchell Park Domes 649-9830

Park Watch 257-PARK/257-7275

Pool/Beach Hotline 257-8098

Permits/Reservations 257-8005

War Memorial Center 224-3200

Wehr Nature Center 425-8550

District 19 Parks

Chippewa Park (11500 Park Hill Ave.) 476-4510

Cooper Park (8701 W. Chambers St.) 871-4020
Hansen Park (1800 Swan Blvd.) 476-4510
Hoyt Park (1800 Swan Blvd.) 476-4510
Jacobus Park (6504 W. Hillside Ln.) 476-4510
Lafollette Park (9418 W. Washington Ave.) 327-8906
Rainbow Park (700 S. 119th St.) 327-8906
West Milwaukee Park (5000 W. Burnham St.) 672-5052
Wisconsin Avenue Park (10300 W. Wisconsin Ave.) 476-4510
City of Wauwatosa Park in 19th District
Hart Park (7300 W. Chestnut St.) 471-8420

Milwaukee County Zoo

General Information 771-3040

Milwaukee Public Museum

General Information 278-2702
IMAX Theater/Planetarium 319-4629

Office of Persons with Disabilities

General Information 278-3932
TTY 278-3937

Register in Probate 278-4444

Register of Deeds 278-4011

Sheriff's Department

General Information 278-4766
TDD Emergency 278-5252

Transit System

Bus Routes/Schedules/Fares 344-6711
Customer Comments 937-3218
Transit Plus 343-1700

UW-Extension 256-4600

Veterans Services 382-1727

Victim/Witness Service

General Information-Felony 278-4667
General Information-Misdemeanor 278-4538/278-4670