



Alderman Joe Dudzik

11th District

City Hall • office: 286-3768 • after hours: 286-2150 • email: jdudzi@milwaukee.gov • website: www.milwaukee.gov/district11

Town Hall Meeting Scheduled

Ald. Dudzik will hold a Town Hall meeting on **Thursday, January 18, 2007 at 6:30 p.m.** in the auditorium at Bell Middle School, 6506 W. Warnimont Ave.

Commissioner Jeffrey Mantes of the Department of Public Works will be on hand to discuss past and present road paving projects and the many issues they create.

Please mark your calendar. I hope to see you there!

Make Your Buildings Talk To You!

Property owners can now use the City of Milwaukee's E-Notify System to have e-mail sent to you whenever the Department of Neighborhood Services (DNS) receives or issues any new document including recorded ownership, orders, complaints or permits. Here's how:

1. Log in at www.city.milwaukee.gov
2. Click on "Request Services Online" in the left hand column.
3. Register your name and e-mail address to get a password.
4. Re-log in at step #2 and use your password and follow the instructions.
5. Click on the "E-Notify" button.
6. Select "Location Based Notification" by checking the box and follow the instructions on entering an address to subscribe to.
7. After checking the "Completed Entering Addresses" box, remember to click the "Update Notification" button at the top before exiting.

You can also set a "range" and get notifications within 600 ft., 1,000 ft., or a half-mile. More help is available at www.milwaukee.gov/dns

Dear Friends & Neighbors:

If you think of the Common Council as a board of directors charged with overseeing an annual budget totaling more than \$1 billion, you begin to see how critical it is for myself and other Council members to make sure city dollars are spent in the most effective and efficient manner.

In fact, the Council holds budget hearings for several weeks prior to our November budget adoption meeting, reviewing the mayor's proposed executive budget for possible budget cuts and areas where we can capture savings, and looking at initiatives that could bring in additional revenue. I am pleased to announce that my colleagues and I were able to amend and adopt a final 2007 city budget that restored targeted Milwaukee firefighter positions, that includes the lowest city budget tax rate in 50 years.

In this newsletter, you'll read about a city department's savings of some \$7.5 million that was brought about after I recommended some major changes.

You'll also read an update on the proposed expansion of the Wal-Mart store on S. 27th St. You can access some helpful information on the city's website, you will learn more about some frequently forgotten city ordinances, and you'll see some helpful tips on dealing with winter in our city.

As always, I welcome your input. It continues to be my distinct honor to represent you as the 11th District Alderman, and I wish you and your loved ones a very happy and safe holiday season.

Sincerely,

Joe Dudzik
Alderman, 11th District

Easy Ways To Do Things & Get Info.
www.milwaukee.gov

One Call For City Info...286-CITY

That one number can connect you with 21 departments, 8,800 employees and 100s of city services, ranging from building permits to parking permission to library hours to garbage pickups.

The City of Milwaukee receives millions of calls annually for services and information, and finding the right number for city services can be difficult and sometimes overwhelming for residents. Ald. Dudzik says the city continues to seek ways to

improve communications with residents, and this one-stop number for city services makes it even easier to find the right department and person to handle your complaint or request.

Residents will still **call 911 for emergencies** but can use the new number for any other calls. The system is in both English and Spanish. Of course, you can always call Ald. Dudzik's office at **286-3768**.

Finding: Wal-Mart Expansion Within The Law

After consulting with the City Attorney, Ald. Dudzik has learned that Wal-Mart can legally expand its store at 3355 S. 27th St.

The alderman, who has continually pressured the retail giant into cleaning up the operation of the current store, has opposed the store's proposed expansion since it was announced. He said it appears Wal-Mart was "given permission to expand to offer groceries at that location in the original 1998 development agreement," prior to his taking office.

"I can assure residents, however, that I will be making sure recommendations about traffic, noise and other site specifications are followed through on," he said.

The Common Council will be required to approve the building's expansion. Specific information on the project will be distributed to neighbors when developments warrant and/or when meetings are scheduled regarding the project.

Please Shovel Out Your Garbage Cart: It's The Law

Ald. Dudzik is asking property owners to again be diligent this winter when it comes to shoveling snow away from their garbage carts. Property owners who do not make their garbage carts accessible to city sanitation crews could get in trouble with the law.

To help avoid health concerns sanitation crews need to be able to empty the carts. Under the city's ordinances, failing to shovel out your garbage cart or recycling cart within 72 hours of the last snowfall prompts a written notice. The first violation following a written notice would result in an automatic \$25 charge, and then a \$50 charge for the second and each subsequent violation in a calendar year.

Ald. Dudzik said the ordinance is similar to the city's nuisance ordinance in that it targets chronic offenders by slapping them with an automatic charge when the city receives repeated calls about violations. The ordinance also covers city rules pertaining to grass/weed cutting, garbage in recycling carts, returning garbage/recycling carts to their original location before 10 p.m. on collection day, shoveling sidewalks or crosswalks within 24 hours after a snowfall, and removing recyclables, grass, brush and leaves from regular household waste.

Analysis Shows 11th District Has Low Crime Rate

A recent report shows that when compared to the City of Milwaukee as a whole, our district has very low rates of crime.

A statistical report released by the City of Milwaukee Information and Technology Management Division compared the number of offenses per 1,000 residents from January 1, 2006 to October 22, 2006, in the 11th District to the City of Milwaukee. The numbers tell the story:

Statistical Category	District 11		City of Milwaukee	
	Number	Rate Per 1000 Residents	Number	Rate Per 1000 Residents
Aggravated Assault	109	2.809	6,451	10.806
Robbery	45	1.16	2,581	4.323
Theft	334	8.607	10,889	18.24
Vehicle Theft	124	3.195	6,348	10.634
Homicide	0	0	89	0.149

Ald. Dudzik believes the safety of the district is tied directly to the involvement of residents looking out for one another and because of the efforts of the men and women of the Milwaukee Police Department.

"MPD has worked diligently to ensure the safety and well-being of the neighborhoods and businesses of the 11th District," he said.

While violent crime seems to be reaching into all parts of the city as of late, the 11th District has not seen the very worst kind of deadly violence. "It is gratifying to see that for the second year in a row there were no homicides in the district," Ald. Dudzik said.

Definitions of Specific Crimes

Aggravated assault - An attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe injury. This type of assault usually is accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or injury.

Burglary - The unlawful entry of a structure (both residential and non-residential) with intent to commit a theft.

Criminal damage to property - Willfully injuring damaging, mutilating, defacing, destroying or substantially impairing the use of any property in which another has an interest without the consent of that person.

Homicide - The willful (non-negligent) killing of one human being by another.

Robbery - The taking or attempt to take anything of value from the care, custody, or control of a person or persons by force or threat of force or violence and/or putting the victim in fear.

Theft - The unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession or constructive possession of another.

Vehicle theft - Theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle.

Council Approves 2007 Budget That Includes Lowest City Tax Rate In 50 Years

With the help of Ald. Dudzik, the Common Council restored firefighter positions targeted for cuts by Mayor Tom Barrett and adopted a 2007 city budget with a final tax rate below \$8.00 per \$1,000 of assessed value – a level not seen since 1956.

In its final action on November 10, the council maintained its “leaner is better” budgetary approach, said Ald. Dudzik. With the adopted 2007 tax rate of \$7.99 per \$1,000 of assessed value, Milwaukee comes in with the lowest percentage tax levy increase of any of the taxing bodies that are included on city tax bills (MPS, MATC, Milwaukee County, the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District and State Forestry).

“The reduced tax rate for 2007 means the Council has adopted city budgets with flat or reduced tax rates 17 of the last 18 years,” Ald. Dudzik said.

“We haven’t seen a city tax rate this low since before I was born,” he said.

The mayor sought to reduce staffing on eight fire department ladder companies from five firefighters to four, but the Council put back the full five (firefighters) on three of the eight ladder companies.

The council also voted to restore \$100,000 in cuts the mayor proposed for the **Milwaukee Public Library**, and it put the brakes on the mayor’s sustainable boulevards program, instead restoring boulevard main-

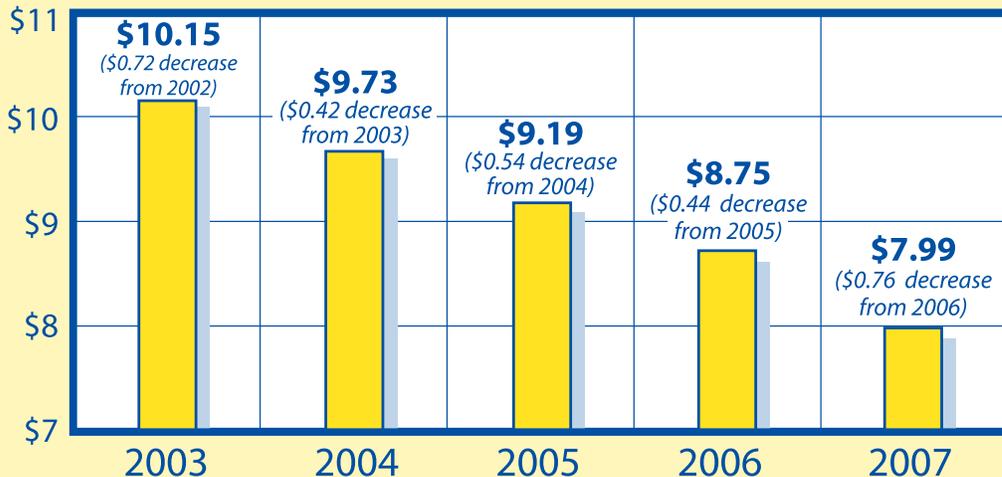
tenance funding to its 2006 level. Members agreed that more input from Council members is needed before moving forward with the mayor’s boulevard program.

The 2007 tax rate approved by the Common Council comes to slightly more than a 5% reduction from the final \$8.76 tax rate for 2006. The tax levy rose just under 5% – going from \$213 million in 2006 to just more than \$220 million for 2007. The new tax levy means that the owner of a \$100,000 home will see a \$76 decrease in the city portion of the tax bill, from \$875 to \$799. However, increases in the assessed value of a home – coupled with increases from other taxing bodies – may very well mean you will see an overall increase in your taxes.

In the end the Council’s approved budget was more than \$107,000 under the state-imposed property tax “freeze.”

In other budget related news, the Department of Public Works reported during the budget process that the city will realize the total savings in the 2007 budget and in future years of \$7.5 million by reducing the number of vehicles in the city’s fleet and not replacing them. This consolidation and downsizing of the city’s fleet was initiated after recommendations were brought forth by Ald. Dudzik. “I’m pleased about the savings, but consolidation and maximizing efficiency are something we should be doing on a daily basis,” said Ald. Dudzik, a former longtime DPW employee.

A Steady “Downsizing” of the City Tax Rate



Frequently Forgotten Ordinances

Barking dogs

All animal noise complaints should be referred to the Department of Neighborhood Services (DNS). A letter stating the animal’s address, the complainant’s name, address and phone number and a general description of the problem must be sent to DNS–Nuisance and Environmental Health Division, 4001 S. 6th St., Milwaukee, WI 53221. To make further complaints call DNS at 286-2268.

Snow and Ice Removal

A reminder that property owners and occupants are required by city law to clear sidewalks abutting their property of snow or ice within 24 hours after the snow and ice have stopped falling. Failure to do so could result in the city doing it and charging you. (Section 116-8) **NOTE: The city does not plow alleys.** Also, please adopt a fire hydrant by shoveling it for the Fire Department.

Parking

No vehicle may be parked on city streets without a permit between the hours of 3 and 6 a.m. (Code 101-27). Special winter parking restrictions are posted on streets. In case of anticipated storms, listen to radio-TV for special changes.

Off-Street Parking

Parking shall not be in the front yard or on grass. Vehicles without license plates shall not be parked for more than 30 days at a residence. The total number of motor vehicles parked outside a residence shall not exceed four. On-street parking is not governed by this code. (Code 295-505).

Garbage Carts

Owners and tenants shall return garbage carts to their proper storage locations before 10 p.m. on the day they are serviced. (Code 79-5). Note: older adults and disabled persons can arrange to have carts returned by sanitation workers. Call the alderman’s office. State law prohibits putting grass clippings, branches and garden debris in the garbage. Leave clippings on the lawn to decompose and nourish the soil, or compost them. Or, take to a Self-Help Center.



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Joe Dudzik
11th District

Parking Issues?

If you need to find out about winter parking regulations on your block or have questions about night parking regulations, access the city's parking web page at www.parking.mpw.net or call **286-8350**.



11th District resident Barb Jakopac generously donated a beautiful blue spruce that stood for decades on her property in the 3100 block of S. 39th St. as the city's official Christmas tree in Red Arrow Park across from City Hall. Ald. Dudzik, shown with Mayor Tom Barrett and Mrs. Jakopac in front of her home a few minutes after the tree was cut last month, also joined Mrs. Jakopac and Ald. Jim Bohl during the city's official tree lighting ceremony on November 17. Ald. Dudzik voted last month to support Ald. Bohl's successful Common Council resolution changing the official designation of the tree back to "Christmas tree."

Alderman Dudzik

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Milwaukee, WI 53202

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Who Are The Landlords On Your Block?

If you'd like information about who owns homes and buildings on your block or near your home, please go to the link below, where you can access both single addresses and address ranges maintained by the Department of Neighborhood Services (DNS).

www.milwaukee.gov/dns

Click on DNS Property Data in left column.

The property data provided allows users to find out ownership information, code violations, and other important details about properties in your neighborhood.

For more information
on your district go to:

www.milwaukee.gov/district11

Please Dispose Of Christmas Trees Properly

The residents of the City of Milwaukee have two options for Christmas tree disposal:

- For collection by a sanitation crew, place the tree where the garbage is collected. Residents whose garbage is picked up at the alley line should place their Christmas tree at the alley line next to the garbage cart.

Residents with curbside collection, whose garbage cart is stored in their backyard, should place their tree between the sidewalk and the curb. Trees will be collected by the regular sanitation crews.

- Christmas trees may also be taken to a Self-Help Center. Christmas trees will be ground into mulch or made into compost if they are brought to one of the City's Self-Help Centers. Please remove all decorations and wires first. Self-Help Centers are located at 6660 North Industrial Rd. and at 3879 West Lincoln Ave. The Self-Help Centers will be closed Christmas (December 23rd to the 25th) and New Year's (December 30 to January 1, 2007).

Analyze Crime in Your Neighborhood

Want an idea as to what kinds of crime are taking place in your neighborhood? The Police Department has been posting weekly Crime Analysis maps on the MPD website at www.milwaukee.gov/police for your review. Look under "Crime Statistics" on the site.

In addition, a summary report of crime and other useful searches is also available on the city web site, COMPASS, at www.milwaukee.gov/compass