



## Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

# Lee Holloway

### Chairman of the Board

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For Immediate Release  
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#### **VOTERS DESERVE INFORMATION AND TRANSPARENCY ON REFERENDUM**

*Sales tax increase would lower property taxes, provide additional funding for County services*

**Milwaukee, WI** – Milwaukee County Board Chairman Lee Holloway released the following statement on efforts to inform the public of an upcoming referendum:

“This referendum was approved by a super-majority of the County Board of Supervisors. I believe this issue should be discussed in an up-front and transparent manner, even if a small amount of dollars—already budgeted for County Board purposes—is used to fulfill the mission of informing voters of this ballot issue. We should encourage voters to participate, regardless of their opinion. It’s unfortunate that the County Executive is against the use of tax dollars to inform voters. Whether voters intend to vote YES or NO on the November 4<sup>th</sup> referendum, they deserve to have the facts associated with this upcoming question. Many of the County’s voters may not even be aware that this referendum question will be on the ballot in just a few weeks.

“In his news conference this afternoon, the County Executive once again stated that an increase in the sales tax would make Milwaukee County a tax island. But he fails to acknowledge that the fee increases proposed in his 2009 Recommended Budget would make Milwaukee County a ‘fee island’ when it comes to a wide range of quality of life amenities, including increased fees for golf courses, swimming pools and the McKinley Marina, along with the installation of parking meters along Lincoln Memorial Drive. The County Executive is sending the residents of Milwaukee County mixed messages that need to be reconciled.

“Finally, it’s important to mention that the County Executive’s 2009 Recommended Budget for the County Board includes an objective that *‘County Supervisors will continue to communicate with constituents, organizations and businesses in their districts to enhance understanding of the needs of the community and the laws, procedures and available resources under which Milwaukee County operates.’* I believe this mailing reflects the spirit of the objective set forth in the County Executive’s 2009 Budget proposal.”

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