

## CITY OF BELOIT

# THE BELOIT REPORT

CONTINUING ITS RESURGENCE AS THE GEM OF THE ROCK RIVER VALLEY

## CURRENT EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

I-39/90 and I-43/WISCONSIN STATE TRUNK HWY 81 IMPROVEMENTS—THIS WEDNESDAY

As we've noted in previous Reports, the State Department of Transportation, along with their consulting engineers, will be in the City on **February 11, 2015 at the Beloit Public Library Community Room, 605 Eclipse Blvd**. to conduct a Public Hearing. The Hearing will convene at 5:30 p.m. and continue until 7:30 p.m. Interested parties may attend anytime between 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. to review displays and other materials, ask questions and provide testimony. A copy of the hearing notice issued by the Department is <u>attached</u> to the Beloit Report for more information.

## BELOIT INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL—10th YEAR ANNIVERSARY—BIGGER AND BETTER THAN EVER!

The Beloit International Film Festival (BIFF) will begin on February 20 and runs this year through March 1, 2015. They are celebrating their 10th anniversary by extending the length of the festival and holding some additional special events. BIFF will have a special opening party on Friday, February 20 in downtown Beloit to celebrate the Festival as it reaches its 10th birthday. There will be a really special silent film presentation, scheduled for February 28, with the venue changing to "The Castle" located at 501 Prospect Ave. Please click [here] for more Festival information and to purchase tickets.

Once again, BIFF has grown into not only an internationally renowned Film Festival, but is also one of those unique events that make Beloit special. We hope everyone will come out this year, enjoy some great independent films, and support *your* International Film Festival.

## SPRING PRIMARY NEEDED IN THE CLINTON SCHOOL DISTRICT PORTION OF BELOIT

A small portion of the far east end of the City of Beloit is located in the Clinton School District. The City was notified that a determination has been made that a primary is required in that district. Consequently, the City Clerk's office will be holding a primary election on February 17, 2015 in Wards 23 and 24. This primary will impact only about 300-500 residential units in the City of Beloit; however, the polling place for those wards will remain open the entire day as required by State Law to facilitate participation in the primary voting by eligible residents who reside in the Clinton School District. Please see <u>attached.</u>

Beginning Monday, February 2, 2015, electors registered to vote in the City of Beloit who are located within the Clinton Community School District boundaries may cast an absentee ballot in person for the February 17, Spring Primary Election. Absentee ballots may be cast in the City Clerk's Office located at 100 State Street on the 2nd Floor through Friday, February 13, 2015.

The only contest on the ballot is a primary for the School Board in the Clinton Community School District. Only voters who live in this school district, located in Wards 23, 24, and 25 are eligible to vote in this election. For additional information, please contact the City Clerk's Office at (608) 364-6680. Please see <u>attached</u>.

## FEBRUARY 6, 2015

A weekly publication from the Office of the City Manager

Larry N. Arft City Manager City of Beloit 100 State Street Beloit, WI 53511

608-364-6614 608-364-6756 (Fax)

arftl@beloitwi.gov www.beloitwi.gov

## Special points of interest:

• Community Events (page 3)

## The Beloit Report

#### UPDATE ON GIRL SCOUT FACILITY AT BIG HILL PARK

City staff had an opportunity to again tour the Girl Scout facility this week. The Girl Scouts have been making steady progress in terms of relocating their operations and clearing the building of the accumulation of personal property, along with various supplies and materials that have been kept at the site. It appears we should have no issues closing on the purchase in May, as anticipated. The City team has also had discussions with a potential user of a portion of the site and is continuing an internal dialogue about how to maximize use of the facility, both for recreation programming, as well as for various rental uses.

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## Buffalo Wild Wings and Chicago Fittings

Complete plans have been submitted for the Buffalo Wild Wings project in the former Atlanta Bread Company building and the Chicago Fittings project in the Gateway Business Park. Submittals are complete and are undergoing review with no anticipated problems that would preclude the beginning of construction early this spring.

### Senior Housing Project on West Hart Road

This project also in permit review. A Certified Survey Map needed to divide off the lot being used for the project is on the Council meeting agenda for Monday, February 16. This is a required component of the overall permitting process. Once again, at this time there are no significant issues with this project that would preclude construction by early spring.

#### **Other Projects**

Other projects, including the CCI building and the first phase of the North Star development are proceeding with construction continuing through the winter months.

#### **COUNCIL CANDIDATE ORIENTATION**

The City Manager held an orientation for Council candidates this past Wednesday. All of the candidates were in attendance except veteran incumbent Councilor Luebke, who is already familiar with the municipal organization and operations, and has set through earlier presentations of this sort.

#### LEAGUE OF WISCONSIN MUNICIPALITIES PRESENTATION ON THE STATE BUDGET

This past Thursday, the City Manager and several other municipal officials, sat through a Webinar presented by the League of Wisconsin Municipalities regarding the content of the Governor's proposed biennial budget, particularly items that affect municipalities. It appears the direct impact on municipalities will be minimal, with no proposed cuts to municipal revenue sources. Unfortunately again this year, no additional resources were provided for General Purpose units of government to help them over costs associated with service delivery.

#### SNAPPERS HOT STOVE BANQUET

I attended the Snappers Hot Stove Banquet this past Thursday. These are always interesting mid-winter events, with numerous Snappers and Oakland A's officials in attendance.

#### LEAGUE OFMUNICIPALITIES BOARD MEETING WISCONSIN

On Friday, the City Manager attended the League of Wisconsin Municipalities Board of Directors meeting. The City manager, the immediate Past President of the League, serves on the Board for one additional year following the close of that term of office. We met in Madison and concluded by mid-afternoon.

#### **CITY MANAGER'S VACATION PLANS**

The City Manager will be out of the City beginning Saturday, February 7 for a pre-scheduled winter vacation. I will return to the City on Saturday, February 14. In the interim, Beth Jacobsen will be available in our office to provide any assistance needed. I will also be monitoring e-mail and phone messages, should the need arise.

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## CITY MEETING CALENDAR– FEBRUARY 9–13, 2015

Monday, Feb. 9	4:30 p.m.	<u>Appointment Review Committee</u> , City Manager's Conf. Room (M. Spreitzer and C. Haynes)
Tuesday, Feb. 10	4:00 p.m.	Alcohol Beverage License Control Committee, Forum (A. Kelly)
Tuesday, Feb. 10	Cancelled	Board of Appeals, Forum
Wednesday, Feb. 11	Cancelled	Park, Recreation and Conservation Advisory Commission, 2351 Springbrook Ct. (S. De Forest)

## UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

This is just a sample of events coming up in Beloit. A more complete listing is available on the Visit Beloit website: <a href="http://www.visitbeloit.com">www.visitbeloit.com</a>

Beloit Public Library offers many events for youth, teens and adults. Please click [here] for more information.

Feb. 9	4:00-6:00 p.m.	<b>Library Informational Briefing for Legislators</b> , open to the public. Beloit Public Library Community Room, 605 Eclipse Blvd. Please click <u>here</u> for more information.
Feb. 11	5:00—8:00 p.m.	<b>Public Hearing re: I-39/90 and I-43 Proposed Improvements</b> , Beloit Public Library Community Room, 605 Eclipse Blvd. Please click <u>here</u> for more information.
Feb. 12	6:00 p.m.	<b>Downtown Beloit Association Annual Awards Dinner</b> , Ironworks Hotel. Admission is \$25, please RSVP to Crystal at the DBA, 365-0150 or crystal@downtownbeloit.com
Feb. 18	Noon—6:00 p.m	Beloit Community Blood Drive at Rotary River Center, 1220 Riverside Drive, Beloit. Sponsored by Rock River Valley Blood Center, the sole supplier of blood and blood related services to Beloit Health System. Please call 1-877-RRVBC-99 to schedule an appointment.

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ON THE LOCATION, DESIGN, ENVIRONMENTAL, STATE TRUNK HIGHWAY SYSTEM CHANGE AND INTERSTATE BRIDGE ASPECTS FOR THE PROPOSED IMPROVEMENT OF INTERSTATE HIGHWAY 39/90 AND INTERSTATE 43/WISCONSIN STATE TRUNK HIGHWAY 81 BETWEEN ILLINOIS 75 TO COUNTY HIGHWAY S AND CRANSTON ROAD TO WISCONSIN STATE TRUNK HIGHWAY 140 ROCK COUNTY

ALL INTERESTED PERSONS are advised that the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) will hold a public hearing as provided by law to consider the location, design, environmental, Section 84.02 State Trunk Highway System change, and Section 84.12 interstate bridge aspects of the proposed improvement of Interstate Highway 39/90 and Interstate Highway 43/Wisconsin State Trunk Highway 81 including those aspects that may require application to the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers for the placement of fill materials into waters of the United States.

The purpose of the proposed I-39/90 and I-43/WIS 81 interchange improvements is to upgrade the interchange to improve overall safety, meet current design standards, accommodate future traffic with an acceptable level of service (LOS), replace aging pavements and structures, and enhance local mobility to the city of Beloit. The project will provide a safe and efficient transportation system at the I-39/90 and I-43/WIS 81 interchange to serve existing and future traffic demands while minimizing disturbance to the surrounding environment.

The proposed project consists of reconstructing the I-39/90 and I-43/WIS 81 interchange. The project length totals 4.6 miles in the project area. The north-south leg of I-39/90 has a length of approximately 2.7 miles. The east-west leg of WIS 81/Milwaukee Road and I-43 has a length of approximately 1.9 miles. The alignment of I-39/90 will be shifted to the east such that the southbound lanes will be located on the existing location of the northbound lanes. It will also provide improved access to Gateway Business Park and maintains all other access to the Beloit urban area. The new I-39/90 and I-43/WIS 81 interchange will include posted 65 mph free-flow movements from I-43 southbound to I-39/90 southbound and from I-39/90 northbound to I-43 northbound. It will also include posted 55 mph free-flow movements from I-43 southbound to I-39/90 northbound.

The project will have right-of-way impacts in the project area. It is anticipated that 82 acres of land will be needed to build the preferred alternative. The project will include 0.6 acres of wetland impacts. New roadway improvements at the I-39/90 crossing of Spring Brook will impact 1.9 acres of the 100-year floodplain. Through highway design, the proposed improvements will not impact the floodplain boundaries in this area.

Further information concerning the proposed improvement is available for review at the Department's Southwest Region Project Office, 111 Interstate Boulevard, Edgerton, WI 53534. Information can also be viewed on the I-39/90 Expansion Project website at <u>www.i39-90.wi.gov</u>, under the South segment.

The public hearing will be held on Wednesday, February 11, 2015, at the Beloit Public Library (Community Room), 605 Eclipse Boulevard, Beloit, WI 53511. The public hearing will be conducted from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Interested persons may attend anytime between 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. to review displays and other hearing materials, ask questions, and provide testim ony.

The traditional-style portion of the public hearing will begin at 5:30 p.m. and will end when all interested persons have provided testimony or 7:30 p.m., whichever occurs last. The traditional-style portion of the public hearing will begin with an informational project presentation prior to accepting traditional-style testimony from the public.

The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. Hearing impaired persons needing assistance should contact the Wisconsin Telecommunications Relay System (dial 711). To allow for arranging assistance, please call no later than three working days prior to the public hearing.

WisDOT project staff and representatives will be available for informal discussion to explain the proposed improvements and answer questions. Exhibits of the proposal will be on display and a statement about the proposed improvement will be available for review.

All interested persons are invited to attend the hearing and to present relevant verbal and/or written testimony concerning the general location and detailed design aspects of the proposed improvement; the proposed change in the State Trunk Highway System in accordance with the provisions of Section 84.02 of the Wisconsin Statutes, the necessity of and the eligibility for construction of the proposed interstate bridge in accordance with the provisions of Section 84.02 of the Wisconsin Statutes, the provisions of Section 84.12 of the Wisconsin Statutes, the social, economic, and environmental impacts and effects of the proposed improvement including those impacts and effects for which permit application to the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers may be required pursuant to Section 404 of the Federal Clean Water Act; and whether the improvement is or is not in the public interest and consistent with the goals and objectives of area planning. Land acquisition and schedules for construction will be discussed at the public hearing.

Information on relocation assistance will also be available. It is anticipated that the relocation of persons will occur as a result of the proposed improvement. Any person who feels that he or she may be thus affected by the proposed improvement may obtain relocation assistance information by contacting Jamie Brud at (608) 884-1225, located at the Department's Southwest Region Project Office in Edgerton, WI.

All interested persons are notified of the availability of the Draft Environmental Assessment of the proposal's impacts and effects which has been prepared and filed according to the State and National Environmental Policy Acts. This document indicates that no significant environmental impacts are anticipated to occur as a result of this improvement. The Environmental Assessment is available for inspection and copying at the following locations:

*Southwest Region Project Office Wisconsin Dept. of Transportation 111 Interstate Blvd Edgerton, WI 53534	Hill Farms Building Wisconsin Dept. of Transportation 4802 Sheboygan Ave. Madison, WI 53707
(document located by the front desk)	(document located in the Library)
Beloit City Hall	Beloit Public Library
100 State Street	605 Eclipse Boulevard
Beloit, WI 53511	Beloit, WI 53511

\*Printed copies of the draft document may be obtained at this location. There may be a charge for this service. An online copy can be viewed on the I-39/90 Expansion Project website, <u>www.i39-90.wi.gov</u>, under the Resources tab and Environm ental section.

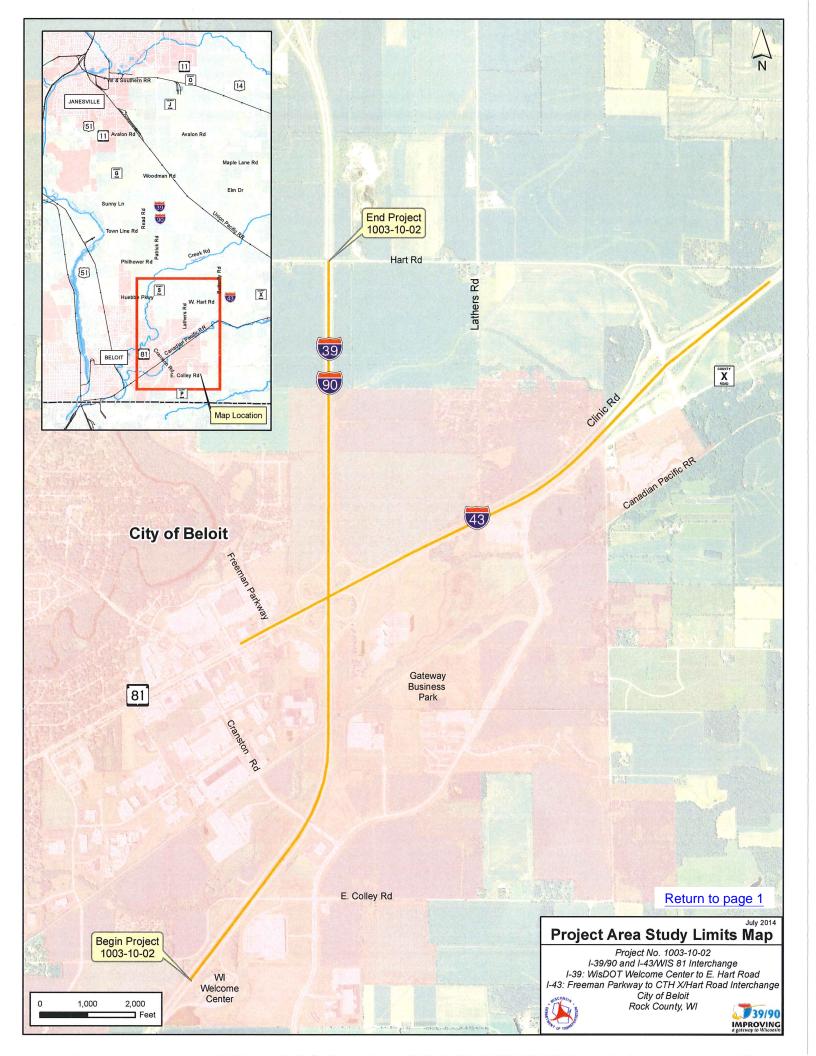
Persons with an interest in or knowledge about historical and archaeological resources in the project area are invited to present such information at the public hearing.

Provisions have been made for the submission of written statements or other exhibits in place of or in addition to the testimony presented at the public hearing.

The Department of Transportation will review all comments and testimony presented as part of this public hearing process and reserves the right to make a final determination on the proposed improvements as described in this notice.

Wisconsin Department of Transportation Division of Transportation System Development

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City Clerk's Office, City Hall 100 State Street Beloit, WI 53511 <u>www.beloitwi.gov</u>

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information, contact: Rebecca Houseman LeMire, City Clerk (608) 364-6680 <u>lemirer@beloitwi.gov</u>

## <u>AMENDED</u> <u>Clinton Community School Board Contest Requires</u> <u>February 17, 2015 Spring Primary Election</u>

**January 12, 2015 – Beloit, WI:** The Clinton Community School District has determined that a primary election will be necessary for the Clinton Community School Board election on April 7, 2015. This primary election will be held on February 17, 2015.

Portions of City of Beloit Wards 23 and 24 are located within the Clinton School District boundaries. Electors in Wards, 23, 24, and 25 regularly vote at Central Christian Church, 2460 Milwaukee Road. <u>Central Christian Church will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on</u> <u>Tuesday, February 17, 2015, for voters who live in the City of Beloit and in the Clinton</u> <u>Community School District to cast ballots for the Spring Primary Election.</u>

Beloit Voters in the Beloit School District and the Beloit Turner School District will not have a primary election. The next election in which all City of Beloit voters may vote will be the Spring Election on April 7, 2015. Voters will use their regular polling places. If you have questions about your polling place, registering to vote, or voting by absentee ballot, please contact the Beloit City Clerk's Office.

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City Clerk's Office, City Hall 100 State Street Beloit, WI 53511 <u>www.beloitwi.gov</u>

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information, contact: Rebecca Houseman LeMire, City Clerk <u>lemirer@beloitwi.gov</u> (608) 364-6680

## Absentee Voting In Person for the February 17, 2015 Clinton Community School District Spring Primary Election Available Starting February 2, 2015

**January 29, 2015 – Beloit, WI:** Beginning Monday, February 2, 2015, electors registered to vote in the City of Beloit who are located within the Clinton Community School District boundaries may cast an absentee ballot in person for the February 17<sup>th</sup> Spring Primary Election.

The only contest on the ballot is a primary for the School Board for the Clinton Community School District. Only voters who live in this school district, located in Wards 23, 24, and 25, are eligible to vote in this election.

Electors who are not registered to vote and those who need to change their names and/or addresses must bring proof of residence to register. Please find the acceptable forms of proof of residence on the following page.

Late registration and absentee voting in person will be available starting **Monday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> through Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup>** between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. in the City Clerk's office on the second floor of City Hall. Electors who would like an absentee ballot mailed to them must make the request in writing via email to <u>lemirer@beloitwi.gov</u>; via mail to 100 State Street, Beloit, WI 53511; or in person at the City Clerk's office.

Photo identification or other proof of identity will **not** be required to obtain an absentee ballot or to obtain a regular ballot on Election Day at the polling place. Sample ballots are available in the Document Center on the City's website <u>www.beloitwi.gov</u> in the Voting and Election Documents folder.

## **ACCEPTABLE FORMS OF PROOF OF RESIDENCE**

One of the following is required to register to vote in the Clerk's office during the closed registration period or on Election Day at the Polling Place:

- A current and valid Wisconsin driver's license
- A current and valid Wisconsin identification card
- Any other Official ID Card or license issued by a Wisconsin Governmental body
- An ID card with your photo issued by an employer during the normal course of business (not including a business card)
- A real estate tax bill or receipt (for the current year or year before the election
- A residential lease which is effective for a period that includes Election Day
- A university, college, or technical college identification card (must include photo) together with a fee payment receipt issued to the cardholder by the university, college or technical college dated no earlier than 9 months before the date of the election at which the receipt is presented
- A utility bill for a period starting no earlier than 90 days before Election Day
- A bank statement or current pay check
- A government check or any other official document issued by a unit of government

**NOTE:** all of the above must contain a current and complete name, including both first and last name; and a current and complete residential address, including numbered street address, if any, and the name of the municipality. If the form has an expiration date, it must be valid on Election Day. **An individual may not register or vote without one of the above forms of proof of residence.** 



### APPOINTMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE NOTICE AND AGENDA REGULAR MEETING Monday, February 9, 2015 at 4:30 p.m. City Manager's Conference Room 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, City Hall

- 1. Roll Call
- 2. Minutes Regular meeting January 12, 2015
- 3. Election of Officers
  - a. Chair
  - b. Vice-Chair
  - c. Secretary
- 4. Consideration and review of existing and upcoming vacancies (February and March, 2015)
- 5. Review of City Council appointments January 20, 2015
- 6. Review of applicants for the following vacancies with recommendations to City Council:

Alcohol Beverage License Control Committee 1 resident (Metter) – term to expire June 30, 2017

Appointment Review Committee

1 resident (Jacobsen) - term to expire December 31, 2016

Board of Appeals 1 resident, 2<sup>nd</sup> Alternate – term to expire May 31, 2015

#### Board of Ethics

- 1 resident (Brown) term to expire December 31, 2016
- 1 resident (Murry) term to expire December 31, 2017
- 1 resident (Peterson) term to expire December 31, 2017
- 1 former City Councilor term to expire December 31, 2016

Board of Review

- 1 resident (Jessen) term to expire December 31, 2019
- 1 resident, Alternate (Daskam) term to expire December 31, 2019
- 1 resident, Alternate (Borgogni) term to expire December 31, 2019

Community Development Authority

1 resident (T. Johnson) - term to expire December 31, 2018

1 Public Housing Resident (G. Johnson) - term to expire December 31, 2018

Equal Opportunities Commission

1 resident (Finnegan) – term to expire June 30, 2016

1 resident (Valdez) - term to expire June 30, 2016

Municipal Golf Committee

1 resident (Lenz) - term to expire December 31, 2017

Park, Recreation & Conservation Advisory Commission

1 Youth (Charles) - term to expire September 30, 2015

1 resident (Geistwalker) - term to expire September 30, 2015

<u>Traffic Review Committee</u> 1 resident (Cole) – term to expire September 30, 2015 1 resident (Dowd) – term to expire September 30, 2016

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- 7. Member Participation
- 8. Citizen Participation
- 9. Adjournment



## NOTICE AND AGENDA ALCOHOL BEVERAGE LICENSE CONTROL COMMITTEE

Beloit City Hall – The Forum 100 State Street, Beloit, WI 53511 Tuesday, February 10, 2015 – 4:00 p.m.

- 1. Roll Call
- 2. Approval of the Minutes of the meeting of January 13, 2015.
- 3. Application for Change of Agent at Kline's Club 88, Inc., d/b/a Rooney's Pub & Grub, 65 Portland Avenue, to Glenda G. Kline.
- 4. Citizen Comments
- 5. Committee Comments
- 6. Police Department Comments
- 7. Attorney Comments
- 8. Adjournment

February 4, 2015 Rebecca Houseman LeMire City of Beloit City Clerk <u>www.beloitwi.gov</u>

\*\*Please note that, upon reasonable notice, at least 24 hours in advance, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of disabled individuals through appropriate aids and services. For additional information to request

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Department of Public Works Parks & Leisure Services Division 2351 Springbrook Court Beloit, WI 53511

## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 11, 2015 has been cancelled. Therefore, the next scheduled meeting of the Parks & Recreation Commission will be held at 6:30pm on Wednesday, March 11, 2015 at the Operations Building located at 2351 Springbrook Court in the City of Beloit, Wisconsin.

Dated: February 6, 2015 Brian Ramsey, CPRP Director of Parks & Leisure Services www.beloitwi.gov

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\*\* Please note that, upon reasonable notice, at least 24 hours in advance, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of disabled individuals through appropriate aids and services. For additional information to request this service, please contact the Parks & Leisure Services Office at 608/364-2929.



## With invited guests:



Rep. Amy Loudenbeck Assembly District 31 Joint Finance Committee



Sen. Stephen Nass Senate District 11 Education Committee



Sen. Janis Ringhand Senate District 15 Economic Development & Commerce Committee



Rep. Mark Spreitzer Assembly District 45 Workforce Development Committee

# Library Informational Briefing for Legislators Monday, February 9 from 4-6 pm

The Beloit Public Library will host a library informational briefing for legislators in the Public Meeting Room with four invited Southern Wisconsin Legislators. This session will focus on state funding for libraries and its impact on the delivery of local library services.



## PUBLIC NOTICE

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) will hold a public hearing to consider the location, design, and environmental impact of a State Trunk Highway System change and interstate bridge aspects of the proposed improvement of **Interstate Highway 39/90 and Interstate Highway 43/State Trunk Highway 81.** The public hearing will be held on Wednesday, February 11, 2015, at 5:30 p.m. in the Community Room of the Beloit Public Library, located at 605 Eclipse Boulevard, Beloit, WI 53511. The Beloit City Council has been invited, and a quorum may be present.

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Larry N. Arft, City Manager

Dated: February 4, 2015 Rebecca Houseman LeMire City Clerk <u>www.beloitwi.gov</u>