



DAVID STEFFEN

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 4TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

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CONTACT: Rep. David Steffen
(608) 266-5840

Green Bay Riverfront Funding Passes State Assembly

Madison, WI – The 60-year effort to relocate the C. Reiss coal pile storage site that lines over a ¼ mile of Green Bay’s downtown riverfront has taken one step closer to becoming a reality. A \$5 million grant authorization bill authored by Green Bay legislators State Rep. David Steffen and State Senator Eric Wimberger passed the Assembly today. The legislation’s requested funds would come from the state’s \$2.7 billion American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) allocation from the federal government.

“This federal money is one-time money specifically designed for projects like this,” said Representative Steffen (R-Howard). “We are excited and confident that the full legislature and the governor will support our community in this effort.”

Earlier this spring, Governor Evers indicated his support of the coal pile relocation/port expansion project in Brown County. This project will transform the economic and scenic landscape of Green Bay’s downtown riverfront. By relocating a dirty, unsightly coal storage facility to a new parcel of land now available, the city will be able to redevelop this brownfield site into a \$100 million taxable property that spans over a ¼ mile of downtown riverfront.

In an effort to work with Governor Evers on a shared priority, AB 389 mirrors his request for \$5 million from \$2.7 billion of federal ARPA funds for this transformative project.

“This is an opportunity for bipartisan legislation,” said Representative Steffen (R-Howard). “The coal piles have held Green Bay back for far too long and our community is tired of it. I’m ready to work with Governor Evers on this project and I’m ready for the coal piles to be gone.”

All eight Brown County State Representatives and Senators, U.S. Congressman Mike Gallagher, Brown County Executive Troy Streckenbach, 100% of the Brown County Board of Supervisors, 100% of the Green Bay City Council, Green Bay Mayor Eric Genrich, 2,500 petition-signing residents, Greater Green Bay Chamber of Commerce, Downtown Green Bay Inc., and On Broadway Inc. are in support of relocating the coal piles.

For more information please contact Representative Steffen. He can be reached at (608)266-5840 or by email at Rep.Steffen@legis.wisconsin.gov.

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