



Van H. Wanggaard

Wisconsin State Senator

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 174

Thank you Mr. Chairman and Committee Members for today's hearing on Senate Bill 174, which extends the time for Mount Pleasant to utilize the Electronics and Information Technology Manufacturing Zone (EITM) TIF funds from 84 to 180 months.

As you may be aware, this TIF District was created in September of 2017, as part of the Foxconn development in Mount Pleasant. Since that announcement, Mount Pleasant is seeing tremendous growth, and not just because of Foxconn. Businesses and residents are rushing into Mount Pleasant, changing the footprint of Mount Pleasant. New homes and businesses are springing up all around Mount Pleasant.

Under the TIF law for the EITM Zone, Mount Pleasant would have to begin the process of designing, purchasing and building a fire station now, before the growth and development is completed. It is putting the cart before the horse. This bill allows Mount Pleasant to use the EITM TIF growth at any time during the TIF's existence rather than in the next 3 years.

This change will allow Mount Pleasant to determine where best to put a new fire station after more development has occurred. In addition to being good logistical planning, this also makes fiscal sense. If Mount Pleasant were to allocate resources now, before development has fully taken off, additional resources may be required to locate a new fire station elsewhere in the village.

In short, this simple bill makes logistical and fiscal sense. Last session, it passed the Assembly a senate committee, and was scheduled to pass the full Senate in March when COVID hit. It has the support of the surrounding legislators, and local governments, and I urge you to support it as well.

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