[Your Name]

[Your Address]

[City, State, ZIP Code]

[Email Address]

[Phone Number]

[Date]

[Politician's Name]

[Title]

[Address]

[City, State, ZIP Code]

Subject: Opposition to public funding of Milwaukee Public Museum, Inc (MPM, Inc) abandoning our historical exhibits.

Dear [Politician's Last Name]:

I hope this letter finds you well. My name is [Your Name], and I am a resident of [Your City/Community]. I am writing to you today to express my concerns regarding using public funds for a private organization to manage our museum and their plan to not preserve beloved exhibits and dioramas.

- Please redo this section pertinent to yourself -  
I was born and raised in Milwaukee. I have been a homeowner in the city and county of Milwaukee for 19 years. I am an ardent supporter of southeast Wisconsin and Milwaukee specifically and am a proud cheesehead. I am also a lifetime lover of our Milwaukee Public Museum

With concerns about the building and its future, last year MPM, Inc sought public funding for the acquisition of a new site and the building of a new Milwaukee Public Museum. This was done with little debate or transparency about the decision of what happens to the current exhibits and dioramas. Now as time has passed, we are learning that MPM, Inc has never had any intention to preserve and move key beloved exhibits and artifacts to the new facility. Furthermore, the funding is going to a completely private organization, Historic Haymarket Milwaukee (HHM) to buy private land under their control, with no say by the public as to how those funds should be used.

Now that we know that they are working against the public wishes, I am vehemently opposed to giving MPM, Inc or HHM, $85 Million of taxpayer money.

I love the Milwaukee-style, created here in our town, by generations of fellow Milwaukeeans. These exhibits are world renowned and have influenced many other museums and artists. The immersive and tactile nature of our museum is what makes it special. Generations of my fellow Milwaukeeans have funded, built, volunteered, and donated family items to our museum. That legacy deserves respect, celebration, and preservation.

The evidence is clear. MPM, Inc focused their lobbying for a new site in a way that was rushed and obscured. At no point was the leadership or MPM, Inc Board of Directors open and honest with Milwaukee about their plans for the current exhibits or the true nature of the facility’s condition. Furthermore, now that the public is becoming aware of these facts, opposition and anger is also understandably growing. While I think many people like the idea of a cool, new, museum building, once Milwaukee’s citizens are told we stand to lose everything of our current museum, the public overwhelmingly will say no.

What I am asking of you:

First, I would ask for a direct reply with your position and opinion on this matter.

Second, I would ask you to consider supporting my position and to consider clawing back the planned funds, if it means loss of our history.

Last, no matter where you stand today, I would ask for more discussion, more transparency, and more accountability regarding our taxpayer money and its use in this matter.

Thank you for your time and consideration regarding our museum. It is important and people care. I look forward to hearing from you soon and having a conversation about preserving our history.

Sincerely,

[Your Full Name]