

August 9, 2017

Dear Friend,

As 4<sup>th</sup> Ward Alderman of Waukegan, I enthusiastically endorse the Ray Bradbury Museum Committee's plans to establish a museum to honor Waukegan's native son, and renowned author. As a former employee of the Waukegan Public Library, I have been exposed to the many contributions Ray Bradbury has given society beyond his literary works. Like many Waukeganites, I have a special place in my heart for Ray Bradbury's literary works. I understand the value to society as whole that Ray Bradbury holds, and have been able to share that with my fellow Waukeganites and others from differing communities.

The future museum will occupy a city-owned, 3,500-square-foot space at 13 N. Genesee Street in downtown Waukegan, which is leased to Greater Waukegan Development Coalition (GWDC), a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit, economic development organization. The Bradbury Museum project now operates as a GWDC program, and will eventually become a separate nonprofit organization. Future plans call for the museum to move into the historic five-story Carnegie Library building, "Ray Bradbury's Library," after its renovation.

The expanded museum will bring many benefits to the heart of downtown Waukegan. The museum will be a highly attractive destination for local, regional, national, and international visitors of all ages. Each school year, Ray Bradbury's works are assigned to students across the globe. The museum will attract and engage students who read Fahrenheit 451, Something Wicked This Way Comes, and other Ray Bradbury works which some feature the historic Carnegie Library and local ravines as settings. The positive publicity will increase Waukegan's reputation widely and increase all residents' pride in their city.

I encourage everyone to support the Ray Bradbury Museum, through professional partnerships, financial contributions, or volunteer positions. Let's take this unique opportunity to work together to make this museum a success and make downtown Waukegan a cultural and entertainment destination for everyone.

Sincerely,

David Villalobos  
4<sup>th</sup> Ward Alderman  
City of Waukegan