



**School of Architecture  
& Urban Planning**

July 30, 2013

**RE: STARS Innovation Credit, Milwaukee Inner Harbor Project**

To whom it may concern,

This letter shall serve as an affirmation that the ecological design Milwaukee Inner Harbor Project meets the criteria for an innovation credit for the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee sustainability assessment for the STARS program.

As the Director of the Institute for Ecological Design and leading faculty on the project, I have worked closely with the City of Milwaukee and multiple groups of faculty and students within UW-Milwaukee's School of Architecture & Urban Planning, the UWM School of Freshwater Sciences and others throughout the two and a half year design process.

Since the 1970s, UWM's School of Architecture and Urban Planning (SARUP) has played a key role in helping Milwaukee envision successful long-term initiatives, including the Lakefront, Park East, and the Menomonee Valley. The frameworks for such community-changing initiatives have matured through open dialogue among Milwaukee's elected officials, professional experts, and students and faculty. Actions based on these visionary frameworks have taken root in new public and private investments. Over the last three years, the Institute for Ecological Design (I4ED) has coordinated a major project aimed at advancing knowledge across the spectrum of ecological architecture, landscape architecture and urban design, all focused on identifying catalytic potentials for the redevelopment of Milwaukee's Inner Harbor. The SARUP-wide collaborative effort serves as a forum for students, faculty, business owners, elected officials, and the general public to envision the future of Milwaukee's industrial waterfront together. The effort provides an example of SARUP's innovation in community-based education and sustainable redevelopment that combines UWM's urban mission with Milwaukee's public and private leadership.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in red ink that reads "James Wasley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

James Wasley, AIA, LEED-AP  
Chair, Department of Architecture