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The Honorable Aftab Pureval
Mayor of Cincinnati, Ohio

The Honorable Cavalier Johnson
Mayor of Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Democratic National Convention
Wednesday, August 21, 2024
Remarks as Prepared for Delivery

Aftab Pureval: As a Tibetan refugee, my mom believed deeply in the promise of America. And when I was growing up, she and my dad taught me that when you make a promise, you keep it.

For years, politicians came through my city and promised to fix the Brent Spence Bridge, which connects Ohio to Kentucky. Donald Trump was one of them. He did what they all do: press conference here, photo op there. But nothing changed.

Until Kamala Harris and Joe Biden. Joe Biden told Cincinnatians, “We’re gonna fix that damn bridge.” And four months later, he signed the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. It gave our city the biggest infrastructure investment in history. It will stitch our communities back together. And it will fix that damn bridge once and for all.

That’s what leadership looks like. Not hollow promises, but solid progress. Not lip service, but true, honest-to-God public service. And under Kamala Harris, the progress will only continue.

Cavalier Johnson: I’m Milwaukee Mayor Cavalier Johnson from the great state of Wisconsin. In Wisconsin, keeping promises is important. So is making amends for your mistakes.

One of those mistakes happened 60 years ago in a neighborhood called Bronzeville, brimming with Black music, culture, and entrepreneurship. And then came “urban renewal” and the construction of Interstates 94 and 43, ripping our community apart. Sixth Street was widened and people of color were displaced. Homes destroyed. Businesses shuttered. All for a quicker commute.

Under Kamala Harris and Joe Biden, we’re bringing Bronzeville back—with more green space, bike paths, and walkable streets to serve the people who actually live there. The music is coming back. The culture is coming back. And thanks to the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, the opportunities are coming back.

Now it’s my privilege to introduce two Milwaukeeans who know firsthand the power of reconnecting our communities—Rashawn Spivey and Deanna Branch.

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