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EDITORIAL

Ups & Downs: Streetcar moves ahead; Brewers value up; and Wells layoffs

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Staff Milwaukee Business Journal

UP

Milwaukee streetcar project is full steam ahead

Unlike plans for a new downtown Milwaukee arena, the streetcar project is moving ahead at full speed as it was announced the first construction contracts for the controversial project could be awarded in July, with heavy work on the system's track and overhead wires set to begin in one year. That timeline puts the city on course to complete heavy construction on the downtown system in spring 2018 and, after a series of tests, begin service in July of that year.

UP

Brewers value jumps to \$875 million

The purchase of the **Milwaukee Brewers** by [Mark Attanasio](#) for \$223 million in 2005 is turning out to be a good investment as Forbes recently estimated the team's worth at \$875 million compared with \$565 million in March 2014, a 55 percent increase. The Brewers' valuation ranked 21st among teams compared with 25th one year ago.

DOWN

Wells Fargo laying off 1,000 workers

The March 25 announcement by Wells Fargo & Co. that it planned to close its home lending services office in Milwaukee was bad economic news. The move means 1,000 employees will be laid off when the office closes in July. Absorbing 1,000 newly unemployed people isn't easy in any industry in this economy, but it could be especially difficult for the Wells Fargo employees.