

5 **AN AMENDED RESOLUTION**
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7 Creating the Milwaukee County Climate Adaption Group to identify risks, create
8 processes, and solutions to problems stemming from global climate change, particularly
9 for the Milwaukee County Parks, identify climate-related grant opportunities, and
10 appropriating \$30,000 from Org. Unit 1940-1945 – Appropriation for Contingencies to
11 Org. Unit 9000 – Department of Parks, Recreation and Culture, for the Group to perform
12 its work
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15 WHEREAS, global climate change has been an ongoing process that has been
16 building up since the beginning of the Industrial Revolution and by its global nature is
17 occurring regardless of local, sub-national, or national boundaries; and
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19 WHEREAS, the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
20 (IPCC) issued a report in October 2018 titled, “Global Warming of 1.5°C, an IPCC
21 special report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and
22 related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, in the context of strengthening the
23 global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development, and efforts to
24 eradicate poverty”, and the United States Global Change Research Program released
25 the “Fourth National Climate Assessment” (NCA4) in November 2018, which found:
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- 27 • The global climate is diverting from its prehistoric pattern due primarily to human
28 activity since the Industrial Revolution, including increased greenhouse gas
29 emissions, deforestation, and other land use changes
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- 31 • Human activities have to the present increased the average global temperature
32 by approximately 1.0°C (1.8°F) since the early 1800s, will likely rise to 1.5°C
33 (2.7°F) between 2030 and 2052, and 2.0°C (3.6°F) under current emissions,
34 making the Earth significantly less habitable for humans and wildlife alike
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- 36 • The Midwestern states of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri,
37 Ohio, and Wisconsin, with 60 million people and producing 18 percent of the
38 American gross domestic product would likely experience:
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 - 40 ○ Decline to 1980s levels in agricultural productivity due to forecasted
41 precipitation changes and increases in extreme temperatures by 2050

- 42 ○ Downturn in the forest industry as trees including birch and ash species
43 may not be able to cope with temperature changes and the advancement
44 of invasive species which will not perish from warmer winters
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- 46 ○ Degeneration of biodiversity as many plant and animal species may not
47 adapt to the changes in climate and other human pressures
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- 49 ○ Increased public health problems from poorer air quality due to increases
50 in ground-level ozone, extended length of pollen seasons, and deadlier
51 urban heat island effects
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- 53 ○ Increased costs in maintaining and reconstructing Midwestern
54 transportation and stormwater infrastructure will likely become more
55 expensive due to higher intensities and frequencies of storms and floods
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59 WHEREAS, the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District in an October 2014
60 “Climate Change Vulnerability Analysis” anticipates that, among other things,
61 Metropolitan Milwaukee will likely see larger storms and more precipitation will fall as
62 rain rather than snow, potentially rendering area green infrastructure less effective when
63 contending with storm surges and lowering the water level of Lake Michigan due to
64 evaporation exceeding precipitation; and
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66 WHEREAS, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, of
67 which the United States is a Member State, adopted the Paris Agreement (Paris
68 Climate Accord) in 2016, a global plan to counteract climate change and prevent the
69 average global temperature from rising to or above 2°C, and the United States signed
70 and ratified the Agreement that year; and
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72 WHEREAS, Milwaukee County declared its intent to adhere to the Paris
73 Agreement in File No. 17-506; and
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75 WHEREAS, in File No. 19-582, Milwaukee County co-created the Milwaukee
76 City-County Joint Taskforce on Climate and Economic Equity which shared its
77 preliminary report in File No. 20-496; and
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79 WHEREAS, Milwaukee County endorsed federal climate change legislation
80 promoted by United States Senator Tammy Baldwin of Wisconsin as it would relate to
81 climate and economic equity (File No. 20-385); and

82 WHEREAS, in File No. 21-390, Milwaukee County joined the Wisconsin Local
83 Government Climate Coalition to advance climate change solutions beneficial to
84 Milwaukee County and Wisconsin residents; and

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86 WHEREAS, Milwaukee County is in need of County-specific and department-
87 specific evaluation of the risks posed by climate change to County government and its
88 individual departments, and the strategies of risk analysis and risk management may be
89 used by County staff to examine the likelihood of possible events, event triggers, and
90 the severity of outcomes; and

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92 WHEREAS, “climate resilience” refers to the ability to prepare for, withstand, and
93 adapt to changing conditions caused by climate change unprecedented in recorded
94 history, including extreme weather conditions such as storms, floods, and droughts; and

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96 WHEREAS, “real options analysis” relates to the process of decision-making
97 under uncertain circumstances, and is based on adapting functions, actions, and
98 processes to meet the needs of real-life scenarios; and

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100 WHEREAS, “adaptation pathways” is the practice of mapping options and trade-
101 offs for responding to scenarios such as climate change and its effects; and

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103 WHEREAS, “adaptive policymaking” refers to the collaborative process of
104 designing policies which allow for accommodation of new facts, modification of existing
105 practices, and encourages both redundancy and innovation; and

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107 WHEREAS, there may be climate resilience grant opportunities from the recently
108 passed federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021; and

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110 WHEREAS, the Committee on Finance, at its meeting of January 27, 2022,
111 recommended adoption of File No. 22-292 as amended (vote 7-0); now, therefore,

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113 BE IT RESOLVED, Milwaukee County shall utilize climate resilience strategies,
114 risk analysis and management methodologies, and adaptive policymaking to anticipate
115 the possible impacts of climate change upon the Milwaukee County Parks System; and

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117 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Department of Parks,
118 Recreation and Culture (DPRC), the Department of Administrative Services-Risk
119 Management Division (DAS-RM), **the Department of Administrative Services-**
120 **Sustainability**, and Office of Emergency Management (OEM) shall identify the risks
121 posed to the Milwaukee County Parks System by climate change; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the work performed shall:

1. Identify the risks which are likely to be caused or exacerbated by climate change, including but not limited to:
 - a. Prolonged heat exposure
 - b. Severe rainfall and floods
 - c. Lower levels of snowfall
 - d. Droughts
 - e. Increasing coastal bluff erosion
 - f. Flooding
 - g. Forest and urban fires
 - h. Variable water levels of Lake Michigan
 - i. The possible impacts on Milwaukee County Parks patrons, facilities, and staff
2. Identify the likelihood, scope, intensity, and possible impacts of the risks
3. Produce the recommendations of how the County may prepare for and respond to the risks

; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, reports on this matter shall include estimates of potential levels of impact posed by the risks, as well as the likelihood the risks will occur, possible methods of risk reduction, and the acceptability levels of outcomes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Office of Strategy, Budget, and Performance (OSBP), OSBP-Grants Procurement Division, the Office of Government Affairs, and relevant County staff shall identify possible grant opportunities for the County made available through the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the initial findings and recommendations of this study shall be presented to the County Board within six to nine months following the passage of this file; and

157 ~~BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, all parties involved with the study and its~~
158 ~~successors shall annually revisit the findings, perform necessary updates to~~
159 ~~reflect the ongoing evolution of risks posed to the Parks System and these~~
160 ~~results shall be shared on an annual or as-needed basis with the Milwaukee~~
161 ~~County Board of Supervisors; and~~
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163 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, all parties involved with the study and its
164 successors shall annually revisit the findings, perform necessary updates to
165 reflect the ongoing evolution of risks posed to the Parks System; and
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167 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, these results shall be shared on an annual or
168 as-needed basis with the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors; and
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170 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the process and results of this work shall be
171 made available to other Milwaukee County departments as a basis for evaluating and
172 preparing for the impacts of climate change on their facilities, employees, and people
173 who are under care in facilities operated or contracted for operation by any County
174 department; and
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176 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors
177 hereby authorizes and directs the Department of Administrative Services, in conjunction
178 with the Office of the Comptroller, to process an appropriation transfer of \$30,000 from
179 Org. Unit 1940-1945 – Appropriation for Contingencies to Org Unit 9010 – Department
180 of Parks, Recreation and Culture Administration, Account 60907-Sundry Services, to
181 cover potentially relevant costs related to performing this work.
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184 01/27/2022
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