

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Inter-Office Communication

Date: April 22, 2022

To: Marcelia Nicholson, Chairwoman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

From: Guy Smith, Executive Director, Milwaukee County Parks

Subject: From the Executive Director of Milwaukee County Parks, requesting authorization to execute a Permanent Gas Easement with WE Energies to install a gas main along the South side of Kohl Park

File Type: Action Report

REQUEST

Authorization to execute a Permanent Gas Easement with WE Energies along the south and east sides of Kohl Park, as a segment of a larger WE Energies project to improve gas service reliability and safety by replacing a 70-year-old high pressure gas main between N 76th St. and Green Bay Rd.

POLICY

§ 59.17(2)(b)3., Wis. Stats., states that the “county board may continue to exercise the authority under s. 59.52(6) with regard to land that is zoned as a park...”. In the law of property, authority over “land” includes authority over all rights appurtenant to the land.

Wisconsin State Statutes:	§ 59.17(2)(b)3.
Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances:	
Specific Adopted Budget:	
Specific Adopted Budget Amendment:	
Specific Adopted Capital Project:	

BACKGROUND

Milwaukee County Parks frequently coordinates with WE Energies for the purpose of utility services both to Parks facilities and across parkland. The current request from WE Energies is to install a gas main along the south side of Kohl Park. Kohl Park is one segment of a larger project to replace and relocate a 1952 vintage high pressure gas main between N 76th St and N Green Bay Road to improve the reliability of gas services and safety in the surrounding area. The proposed gas main would be installed using open trenches and excavations. The easement will encompass the South and East sides of Kohl Park

Parks has reviewed this request, and based on the size of the easement, the minimal impact to parkland, natural areas, and recreational activities, and the overall benefit to the community as

it relates to improving system reliability and safety for gas customers in the area, is recommending approval of this easement. Using comparable land values, WE Energies is offering \$0.64/square foot, or approximately \$47,838 (approximate until final easement is calculated) for the proposed easement rights.

New services are installed by WE Energies and their contractors, and permission for installation work is granted through the Parks Right-of-Entry permit process. Granting the permanent easement is necessary for the long-term operation of the utility on Park property and requires authorization from the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors and the County Executive.

Related File No's:	
Associated File No's (Including Transfer Packets):	
Previous Action Date(s):	

ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN

This easement is related to improved reliability of gas service and safety to county residents in the area and also helps Parks meet its revenue goals.

3B: Enhance the County's fiscal health and sustainability

Monies received for the easement helps Parks meet revenue goals.

3C: Dismantle barriers to diverse and inclusive communities

Ensures reliable gas to County residents

FISCAL EFFECT

Increase of revenues in the current budget year of approximately \$47,838 to help meet revenue targets.

TERMS

The easement is permanent. One-time payment of approximately \$47,838.

VIRTUAL MEETING INVITES

Erica Goblet, Contracts Manager, Milwaukee County Parks

PREPARED BY:

Erica Goblet, Contracts Manager

APPROVED BY:

Guy Smith, Parks Executive Director 

ATTACHMENTS:

Resolution
Fiscal Note
Easement
Aerial Map

cc:

David Crowley, County Executive
Mary Jo Meyers, Chief of Staff, County Executive's Office
Parks, Energy and Environment Committee Members
Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors
Janelle M. Jensen, Legislative Services Division Manager, Office of the County Clerk
Aaron Hertzberg, Director, Department of Administrative Services
Joseph Lamers, Fiscal & Budget Director, DAS
Vince Masterson, Fiscal & Strategic Asset Coordinator, DAS
Pamela Bryant, Capital Finance Manager, Comptroller's Office
Justin Rodriguez, Capital Finance Analyst, Comptroller's Office
Kelsey Evans, Committee Coordinator, Office of the County Clerk
Ciara Miller, Research & Policy Analyst, Office of the Comptroller
Anthony Rux, Budget & Management Analyst, DAS-PSB