

From the Economic Development Director, Department of Administrative Services requesting authorization to apply for, accept, and implement a Grant for a maximum amount of \$250,000 from the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation for funding to provide Building Bridges Small Business Grants to help local small businesses acquire and expand their real estate footprint in Milwaukee County, by recommending adoption of the following:

A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) is the State of Wisconsin's (the State) lead economic development agency, focused on sustainable business growth and job creation; and

WHEREAS, WEDC's Small Business Development Grant (the Grant) "encourages communities and economic development partners to invest in their small businesses," offering financial incentives for these communities and organizations to develop innovative programs that directly support small business and small business creation, with a goal of supporting local and regional economic development programs aimed at providing greater access to capital to small businesses in the State; and

WHEREAS, Economic Development, Department of Administrative Services, is seeking authorization to apply for, accept, and implement the Grant, to provide small businesses with grants of up to \$10,000 to assist local entrepreneurs in acquiring and expanding real estate for their brick-and-mortar businesses; and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Community, Environment, and Economic Development, at its meeting of September 8, 2025, recommended adoption of File No. 25-588 (vote 5-0); and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Finance, at its meeting of September 11, 2025, recommended adoption of File No. 25-588 (vote 4-0); now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, Economic Development (ED), Department of Administrative Services (DAS), is hereby authorized to apply for, accept, and implement a Small Business Development Grant (the Grant) in an amount up to \$250,000 from the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC), to fund the implementation of the Building Bridges Small Business Grants (Building Bridges); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, if awarded the Grant, ED, DAS, is authorized to enter into a Grant Agreement with WEDC, subject to the approval of Risk Management, DAS, and the Office of Corporation Counsel; and

46 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, ED, DAS, is hereby authorized to reuse the bank
47 account previously created for this program to receive funds received from the WEDC
48 and disburse those funds to local small businesses through Building Bridges.

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