



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

DAVID CROWLEY

MILWAUKEE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Honorable members of the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors:

Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 59.17(6), I have vetoed File Number 21-558, “A resolution/ordinance amending Chapter 13 of the Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances to require Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors approval for all agreements and partnerships with Milwaukee County support groups.”

While I agree with the spirit and the majority of the provisions of this resolution, I object to the onerous requirements that may be placed upon many of Milwaukee County’s support groups – groups that are overwhelmingly volunteer-based and performing services for Milwaukee County based solely on a sense of civic responsibility rather than financial interest. I worry that, as we heard during public testimony on this resolution, we run the risk of depriving our Parks Department of much-needed community support by imposing unnecessary bureaucratic hurdles. I understand and acknowledge the need for both updates to Chapter 13 of our ordinances, as well as the general need for transparency, but believe that the resolution as currently constituted has the likelihood of dissuading some of our most passionate volunteer public servants from providing that public service to our Parks system.

Again, I do not disagree with the need to clarify and update the provisions of M.C.G.O. Chapter 13 to ensure support groups are clear on what will be required of them, and to ensure total transparency throughout the County. To that end, I have asked the Parks Department to conduct a review of this chapter and submit suggested changes to your body as soon as practicable. My hope is that your body forebear any immediate action on this item until representatives of the Parks Department have had the opportunity to share their suggested changes. Finally, I thank the authors of both this resolution and accompanying amendments for their diligence and commitment to improving the functioning of our County government.

Respectfully,

County Executive David Crowley