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The Executive Director of Parks seeking authorization to submit to the grant programs for the Land and Water Conservation Funding Program, and, if applicable, to accept a related grant award, by recommending adoption of the following:

A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Culture (DPRC) owns and maintains Moss Universal Park (the Park), formerly Wisconsin Avenue Park (10300 Wisconsin Avenue, Wauwatosa, Wisconsin), a 17.9-acre neighborhood park in the City of Wauwatosa; and

WHEREAS, AFAR, Inc., doing business as The Ability Center (TAC), is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, whose goal is to provide a higher quality of life for people of all abilities by transforming greater Milwaukee into the most universally inclusive recreation destination in the world; and

WHEREAS, DPRC has partnered with TAC on several initiatives to promote accessibility in the parks through the RampUP MKE Program, including accessible wheelchairs at Bradford Beach, accessible ice-skating sleds in Red Arrow and Wilson Parks, hand cycles in Veterans Park, and the installation of an accessible ramp and matting at Bradford Beach; and

WHEREAS, TAC approached DPRC several years ago to discuss the possibility of a partnership to construct a Universal Park (the Project) at the Park; and

WHEREAS, this proposal was presented to the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors in adopted File Nos. 22-928, 23-311, and 23-599; and

WHEREAS, TAC, in coordination with DPRC, has had several public input meetings, and conducted a public input survey, with the community showing overwhelming support for the Project; and

WHEREAS, the total cost of the Project is estimated at \$10 million, which TAC is providing through its fundraising, with no funding required from Milwaukee County; and

WHEREAS, the Project is proposed to be completed in two phases, with the first phase including upgrades to the park clubhouse, accessible restrooms, a universal field, improved baseball and softball fields, accessible playground spaces, and a new and expanded parking lot; and

WHEREAS, phase two of the Project proposes accessible paths, fitness stations, activity areas, an inclusive challenge course, and sensory destinations; and

46 WHEREAS, TAC currently leases the Park clubhouse, and wishes to enter into a
47 long-term Lease Agreement (the Agreement) of the clubhouse once the clubhouse
48 renovations are complete; and

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50 WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin (the State) Department of Natural Resources
51 (DNR) administers the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant
52 program, which encourages the creation and interpretation of high-quality outdoor
53 recreational opportunities; and

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55 WHEREAS, recognizing the importance of investment in the Park, DPRC and
56 TAC are seeking additional support from the State DNR to further enhance the Park's
57 improvements; and

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59 WHEREAS, the Committee on Parks and Culture, at its meeting of June 4, 2024,
60 recommended adoption of File No. 24-511 (vote 5-0); and

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62 WHEREAS, the Committee on Finance, at its meeting of June 13, 2024,
63 recommended adoption of File No. 24-511 (vote 5-0); now, therefore,

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65 BE IT RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors (County Board)
66 has allocated sufficient funds, supplemented by contributions from the Milwaukee Parks
67 Foundation, to complete Moss Universal Park (the Project), and hereby authorizes Guy
68 Smith, Director, Department of Parks, Recreation, and Culture (DPRC), to act on behalf
69 of Milwaukee County to submit an application to the State of Wisconsin (the State)
70 Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for financial aid that may be available, submit
71 reimbursement claims along with necessary supporting documentation within six
72 months of the Project completion date, sign documents, and take necessary action to
73 undertake, direct, and complete the Project at Moss Universal Park; and

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75 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, DPRC will comply with State or Federal rules for
76 the programs; may perform force account work; will maintain the completed Project in
77 an attractive, inviting, and safe manner; will keep the facilities open to the general public
78 during reasonable hours, consistent with the type of facility; and will obtain approval
79 from the State DNR or the National Park Service in writing before any change is made
80 in the use of the Project site; and

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82 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County Board authorizes DPRC, Office of the
83 Comptroller, Department of Administrative Services (DAS), Corporation Counsel, Risk
84 Management, DAS, Office of Economic Inclusion, DAS, Office of the County Executive,
85 or any other department necessary, to take all actions required for the purpose of
86 accepting and administering the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund grant, if
87 awarded.

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