

**COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE**  
Inter-Office Communication

Date: April 22, 2026

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

From: Guy Smith, Executive Director for Milwaukee County Parks

Subject: Milwaukee Parks Foundation - Update

File Type: Informational

---

**REQUEST**

This report is for informational purposes, there is no request at this time

**POLICY**

Wisconsin State Statutes:	
Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances:	
Specific Adopted Budget:	
Specific Adopted Budget Amendment:	
Specific Adopted Capital Project:	

**BACKGROUND**

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

**Milwaukee Parks Foundation Overview and Impact**

Milwaukee Parks Foundation's (MPF) mission is to collectively steward a thriving parks system. Through fundraising, raising awareness, building community capacity and partnerships, and advocacy MPF is dedicated to building a more vibrant and equitable parks system that benefits all.

Since their founding in 2019, MPF has invested more than \$3.3M into parks through capital projects, maintenance, operations as well as grassroots programs, events and activities. Additionally, through their communications strategy MPF has brought more than 13,500 individuals into parks and leveraged nearly 6,000 volunteer hours. strategic plans and future goals.

**ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

Describe how the item aligns to the objectives in the [strategic plan](#):

1A: Reflect the full diversity of the County at every level of County government

- 1B: Create and nurture an inclusive culture across County government
- 1C: Increase the number of County contracts awarded to minority and women-owned businesses
- 2A: Determine what, where, and how we deliver services to advance health equity
- 2B: Break down silos across County government to maximize access to and quality of services offered
- 2C: Apply a racial equity lens to all decisions
- 3A: Invest “upstream” to address root causes of health disparities
- 3B: Enhance the County’s fiscal health and sustainability – MPF is generating significant non-County sources of funding to improve county facilities and services
- 3C: Dismantle barriers to diverse and inclusive communities – MPF strives to make the parks system more equitable

**FISCAL EFFECT**

N/A

**TERMS**

N/A

**VIRTUAL MEETING INVITES**

Rebecca Stoner, Milwaukee Park  
Foundation, [rebecca.stoner@mkeparksfoundation.org](mailto:rebecca.stoner@mkeparksfoundation.org)

**PREPARED BY:**

Jim Tarantino, Deputy Director, Milwaukee County Parks

**APPROVED BY:**

Guy Smith, Executive Director Milwaukee County Parks *guy smith*

**ATTACHMENTS:**

None

- CC: David Crowley, County Executive  
Mary Jo Meyers, Chief of Staff, County Executive’s Office  
Priscilla Coggs-Jones, Committee on Parks & Culture Member  
Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors  
Janelle M. Jensen, Legislative Services Division Mgr, Office of the County Clerk  
Nicholas Sinram, Executive Director, Department of Administrative Services  
Vince Masterson, Fiscal & Strategic Asset Coordinator, DAS  
Pamela Bryant, Capital Finance Manager, Comptroller’s Office  
Justin Rodriguez, Capital Finance Analyst, Comptroller’s Office  
Kelsey Nyen, Committee Coordinator, Office of the County Clerk  
Anthony Rux, Budget & Management Analyst, DAS-PSB  
Sandy Saltzstein, Research and Policy Analyst  
Sheldon Wasserman, Committee on Parks & Culture Chairperson