



CHRIS ABELE, MILWAUKEE COUNTY EXECUTIVE  
JOHN DARGLE, JR., DIRECTOR OF PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE

Date: October 2, 2017  
To: Jason Haas, Chair, Parks, Energy and Environment Committee  
From: John Dargle, Jr., CPRP, Director, Milwaukee County Parks  
Subject: **Mitchell Park Horticultural Conservatory (The Domes) Task Force Fund Transfer Request (INFORMATION)**

**ISSUE**

Informational report on The Domes Task Force Fund Transfer Request.

**BACKGROUND**

An appropriation transfer of \$240,000 is requested by the Director of the Department of Administrative Services (DAS), and the Director of Milwaukee County Parks (Parks) to create new Project WP684, Domes Material Testing. The appropriation transfer is requested from project WP490, Domes Mesh Installation in the amount of \$240,000.

Resolution File Nos. 15-601 and 15-626 were approved in September 2015, establishing capital project WP49001 - Mitchell Park Domes. Cash financing was provided from the County's Debt Service Reserve Fund for a protective netting system in the amount of \$400,000, in addition to funding for long-term planning options in the amount of \$100,000 for a total of \$500,000. As the project's scope and cost was better defined, the Departments of Administrative Services - Architecture & Engineering (A&E) and Parks staff determined that additional estimated funding of \$500,000 was required for the protective mesh system (for the Show Dome) and long-term planning options. County Board File No. 16-200, adopted March 17, 2016, provided an additional \$500,000 from the Appropriation for Contingencies (Org. Unit 1945) to the Mitchell Park Domes project.

Efficiencies in the project approach during the execution of the Domes Mesh Installation project resulted in the successful completion of the project in all three Domes, with costs lower than initially budgeted. Planning work is currently underway by both the Domes Task Force and their consultant team led by HGA Architects, to complete a Future Path and Feasibility Study.



Creation of project WP684 will support the planning efforts by both evaluating the composition and condition of the existing materials that comprise the Domes structure, and also testing various scenarios with material mock-ups that will be analyzed under conditions present at the Domes. This work will be concurrent to the long-range planning effort, and will provide a detailed analysis on what physical opportunities and challenges are present in the materials that make up the Domes structure. Examples of the investigations necessary include tests to measure concrete strength and analyses to ascertain glazing system limitations.

**RECOMMENDATION**

No action requested. Informational item unless further action required.

Prepared by: Sarah Toomsen, Manager of Planning and Development

**Approved by:**



John Dargle, Jr., CPRP, Director

Copy: Chris Abele, County Executive

Raisa Koltun, Chief of Staff, County Executive's Office

Theodore Lipscomb, Sr., Chairman, County Board of Supervisors

Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, County Board of Supervisors

Marcelia Nicholson, Vice-Chair, Parks, Energy & Environment Committee

Peggy West, Supervisor District 12

Allyson Smith, Committee Coordinator, Office of the County Clerk

Jessica Janz-McKnight, Research & Policy Analyst, Office of the Comptroller

Jeremy Lucas, Fiscal Mgt. Analyst, Admin & Fiscal Affairs/DAS

William Lynch, Chairman of the Domes Task Force