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From the Executive Director of Parks requesting authorization to apply for and accept State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Inflation Reduction Act Grant, by recommending adoption of the following:

**A RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin (the State) Department of Natural Resources (DNR) administers the Urban and Community Forestry projects specified in Section 23.097(1g) and Section 23.097(1r), Wisconsin State Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the State DNR is seeking to fund projects through its Inflation Reduction Act Forestry Grant (the Grant) program; and

WHEREAS, the Grant program is designed to support projects and programs that improve a community’s capacity to manage its trees; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Culture (DPRC) is seeking the Grant to support reforestation efforts that include purchasing and planting trees, converting existing areas to natural areas, and supporting reforestation efforts at the Milwaukee County Zoo; and

WHEREAS, the Grant will expand the capacity of DPRC’s forestry operations, increasing the amount of funding towards tree purchasing, improving the ability for DPRC to replace trees removed due to Emerald Ash Borer, increasing tree diversity, and implementing forestry management plans; and

WHEREAS, the estimated cost of the project is \$369,292.69, and is paid in full by the Grant; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Grant requirements, DPRC identifies the Operations Manager, Land Resource Division, as the Authorized Representative to complete the following: sign and submit the Grant application, sign a Grant Agreement between Milwaukee County and the State DNR, submit interim and/or final reports to the State DNR to satisfy the Grant Agreement, submit Grant reimbursement requests to the State DNR, and sign and submit other required documentation; and

WHEREAS, DPRC attests to the validity and veracity of the statements and representations contained in the Grant application; and

WHEREAS, DPRC requests a Grant Agreement to carry out the project; and

WHEREAS, projects may start no earlier than September 2024, and must be completed by December 31, 2027; and

47           WHEREAS, the Director, DPRC, recommends that the DPRC be authorized to  
48 apply for and accept the 2024 State DNR Urban and Community Forestry Grant  
49 identified above; and

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51           WHEREAS, the Committee on Parks and Culture, at its meeting of June 4, 2024,  
52 recommended adoption of File No. 24-510 (vote 5-0); and

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54           WHEREAS, the Committee on Finance, at its meeting of June 13, 2024,  
55 recommended adoption of File No. 24-510 (vote 5-0); now, therefore,

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57           BE IT RESOLVED, the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Culture (DPRC)  
58 will comply with all local, State, and Federal rules, regulations, and ordinances relating  
59 to this project; and

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61           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, DPRC is hereby authorized to apply for and  
62 accept the 2024 State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Inflation  
63 Reduction Act Forestry Grant identified above.

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