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LEE HOLLOWAY, MILWAUKEE COUNTY EXECUTIVE  
SUE BLACK, DIRECTOR OF PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE

Date: January 20, 2011

To: Chairman Michael Mayo, County Board of Supervisors

From: Sue Black, Director, Department of Parks, Recreation and Culture

**Subject: Authorization to Submit a United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service State & Private Forestry Redesign Competitive Allocation RFP FY 2011 Grant Request and Accept if Granted – Action Item**

**POLICY**

The Milwaukee County Department of Parks, Recreation and Culture (DPRC) is requesting authorization to submit a proposal for, and accept if granted, a U.S. Forest Service grant which would enable DPRC to expand its reforestation efforts at various parks throughout the County.

**BACKGROUND**

In the Milwaukee County 2011 Capital Budget, DPRC has been allocated \$61,000 to convert approximately 20 acres of parkland from mowed grass to native trees and shrubs (#WP 186 - *Parks Naturalization*). The primary goal of this budget item is to restore portions of DPRC property to native habitat in order to reduce the costs associated with maintaining 15,000 acres of parkland.

DPRC Staff has been informed by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) that the project may be implemented in such a way that it can be used to take advantage of a 1:1 matching U.S. Forest Service grant. Under the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service State & Private Forestry Redesign Competitive Allocation RFP FY 2011, WDNR is eligible to submit or authorize others to submit proposals for projects that address high-priority issues or landscapes as identified in Wisconsin's "2010 Statewide Forest Assessment and Strategy". Two of those issues or landscapes, Forest Fragmentation and Forest Composition and Structure, will be addressed as part of the implementation of the Parks Naturalization Project. Therefore, DPRC is proposing to use \$60,000 of the amount allocated in WP 186 – *Parks Naturalization* to capture an additional \$60,000 from a U.S. Forest Service grant, enabling the department to double the amount of land initially proposed for naturalization.

In addition to reducing the amount of parkland requiring mowing, the planting of native woodland tree and shrub species at selected DPRC sites around the County would:

- Reverse the fragmentation of forests on DPRC land
- Expand the canopy cover and increase the species diversification of plant species within that canopy

- Enhance wildlife dispersion corridors between existing Milwaukee County Park System forests
- Expand habitat for interior nesting birds, threatened amphibians, and other woodland wildlife species
- Increase low impact recreational opportunities such as walking and nature observation
- Attenuate flood waters
- Improve water quality

**RECOMMENDATION**

DPRC respectfully requests authorization to submit a proposal for, and accept if granted, funding through the U.S. Forest Service State & Private Forestry Redesign Competitive Allocation RFP FY 2011 for the naturalization of selected DPRC parkland. DPRC would be authorized to use \$60,000 from the *WP186 – Parks Naturalization* account as the local match for the grant to capture an additional \$60,000 in U.S. Forest Service funds.

Prepared by: Bill Waldron, Natural Resources Specialist, DPRC

**Recommended by:**

**Approved by:**

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Jim Keegan, Chief of Administration and  
External Affairs

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Sue Black, Parks Director

cc: County Executive Lee Holloway  
 E. Marie Broussard, Deputy Chief of Staff, County Executive's Office  
 Terrence Cooley, Chief of Staff, County Board  
 Renee Booker, Director, DAS  
 John Ruggini, Assistant Fiscal & Budget Administrator, Admin & Fiscal Affairs/DAS  
 Supv. Joe Sanfelippo, Vice-Chairman, Parks Committee  
 Sarah Jankowski, Fiscal Mgt. Analyst, Admin & Fiscal Affairs/DAS  
 Julie Esch, Research Analyst, County Board  
 Linda Durham, Parks, Energy & Environment Committee Clerk

(ITEM NO. ) From the Director, Department of Parks, Recreation and Culture (DPRC), seeking authorization to Submit a United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service State & Private Forestry Redesign Competitive Allocation RFP FY 2011 Grant Request and Accept if Granted by recommending adoption of the following:

**A RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, in the Milwaukee County 2011 Capital Budget, DPRC has been allocated \$61,000 to convert approximately 20 acres of parkland from mowed grass to native trees and shrubs (#WP 186 - Parks Naturalization); and

WHEREAS, the primary goal of this budget item is to restore portions of DPRC property to native habitat in order to reduce the costs associated with maintaining 15,000 acres of parkland; and

WHEREAS, under the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service State & Private Forestry Redesign Competitive Allocation RFP FY 2011, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) is eligible to submit or authorize others to submit proposals for projects that address high-priority issues or landscapes as identified in Wisconsin’s “2010 Statewide Forest Assessment and Strategy”; and

WHEREAS, the Parks Naturalization project may be implemented in such a way that it addresses two of the issues or landscapes identified in Wisconsin’s “2010 Statewide Forest Assessment and Strategy”; and

WHEREAS, the DPRC is proposing to use \$60,000 of the amount allocated in WP 186 – Parks Naturalization to capture an additional \$60,000 from a U.S. Forest Service grant, enabling the Department to double the amount of land initially proposed for naturalization; and

WHEREAS, in addition to reducing the amount of parkland requiring mowing, the planting of native woodland tree and shrub species at selected DPRC sites around the County would:

- Reverse the fragmentation of forests on DPRC land
- Expand the canopy cover and increase the species diversification of plant species within that canopy
- Enhance wildlife dispersion corridors between existing Milwaukee County Park System forests
- Expand habitat for interior nesting birds, threatened amphibians, and other woodland wildlife species

- 45 • Increase low impact recreational opportunities such as walking and nature
- 46 observation
- 47 • Attenuate flood waters
- 48 • Improve water quality

49 ; and

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51 WHEREAS, the Director of the DPRC recommends that DPRC be authorized to  
52 submit a proposal for, and accept if granted, funding through the U.S. Forest Service State  
53 & Private Forestry Redesign Competitive Allocation RFP FY 2011 for the naturalization of  
54 selected DPRC parkland; now, therefore

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56 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors does hereby  
57 authorize the Parks Director to submit a proposal for, and accept if granted, funding  
58 through the U.S. Forest Service State & Private Forestry Redesign Competitive Allocation  
59 RFP FY 2011 for the naturalization of selected DPRC parkland.

## MILWAUKEE COUNTY FISCAL NOTE FORM

**DATE:** 1/11/11

Original Fiscal Note

Substitute Fiscal Note

**SUBJECT:** Authorization to Submit a United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service State & Private Forestry Redesign Competitive Allocation RFP FY 2011 Grant Request and Accept if Granted

**FISCAL EFFECT:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> No Direct County Fiscal Impact<br><input type="checkbox"/> Existing Staff Time Required<br><input type="checkbox"/> Increase Operating Expenditures<br>(If checked, check one of two boxes below)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Absorbed Within Agency's Budget<br><input type="checkbox"/> Not Absorbed Within Agency's Budget<br><input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Operating Expenditures<br><input type="checkbox"/> Increase Operating Revenues<br><input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Operating Revenues | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Capital Expenditures<br><input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Capital Expenditures<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Capital Revenues<br><input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Capital Revenues<br><input type="checkbox"/> Use of contingent funds |
|--|--|

*Indicate below the dollar change from budget for any submission that is projected to result in increased/decreased expenditures or revenues in the current year.*

	Expenditure or Revenue Category	Current Year	Subsequent Year
<b>Operating Budget</b>	Expenditure	0	0
	Revenue	0	0
	Net Cost	0	0
<b>Capital Improvement Budget</b>	Expenditure	60,000	0
	Revenue	60,000	0
	Net Cost	0	0

## DESCRIPTION OF FISCAL EFFECT

In the space below, you must provide the following information. Attach additional pages if necessary.

- A. Briefly describe the nature of the action that is being requested or proposed, and the new or changed conditions that would occur if the request or proposal were adopted.
- B. State the direct costs, savings or anticipated revenues associated with the requested or proposed action in the current budget year and how those were calculated.<sup>1</sup> If annualized or subsequent year fiscal impacts are substantially different from current year impacts, then those shall be stated as well. In addition, cite any one-time costs associated with the action, the source of any new or additional revenues (e.g. State, Federal, user fee or private donation), the use of contingent funds, and/or the use of budgeted appropriations due to surpluses or change in purpose required to fund the requested action.
- C. Discuss the budgetary impacts associated with the proposed action in the current year. A statement that sufficient funds are budgeted should be justified with information regarding the amount of budgeted appropriations in the relevant account and whether that amount is sufficient to offset the cost of the requested action. If relevant, discussion of budgetary impacts in subsequent years also shall be discussed. Subsequent year fiscal impacts shall be noted for the entire period in which the requested or proposed action would be implemented when it is reasonable to do so (i.e. a five-year lease agreement shall specify the costs/savings for each of the five years in question). Otherwise, impacts associated with the existing and subsequent budget years should be cited.
- D. Describe any assumptions or interpretations that were utilized to provide the information on this form.

A. DPRC is requesting authorization to submit a proposal for a U.S. Forest Service grant and to accept if granted. The grant has a 1:1 local match requirement. In the Milwaukee County 2011 Capital Budget, DPRC has been allocated \$61,000 to convert approximately 20 acres of parkland from mowed grass to native trees and shrubs (#WP 186 - Parks Naturalization). DPRC is proposing to use \$60,000 of that amount to capture an additional \$60,000 from the U.S. Forest Service.

B. The U.S. Forest Service grant has a 1:1 local match requirement. Therefore, if the County contributes \$60,000 the grant from the U.S. Forest Service would be \$60,000.

C. No Impact.

D. None

Department/Prepared By Bill Waldron, Natural Resources Specialist, DPRC

Authorized Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Did DAS-Fiscal Staff Review?  Yes  No

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<sup>1</sup> If it is assumed that there is no fiscal impact associated with the requested action, then an explanatory statement that justifies that conclusion shall be provided. If precise impacts cannot be calculated, then an estimate or range should be provided.