

Appendix H
Correspondence



Department of Public Works
Infrastructure Services Division

Jeffrey J. Mantes
Commissioner of Public Works

Preston D. Cole
Director of Operations

Jeffrey S. Polenske
City Engineer

June 30, 2011

Mr. Mark Gottlieb, Secretary
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
4802 Sheboygan Avenue
Madison, WI 53707

Subject: Bicycle Accommodation on Hoan Bridge

Dear Secretary Gottlieb:

I am writing this to express the City of Milwaukee's continued support to open the Hoan Bridge to bicyclists and pedestrians. The upcoming re-decking project is the logical time to revisit this issue. It is our understanding that the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) has retained consultants to undertake the design of the re-decking project. Please accept this letter as the City of Milwaukee's formal request to include a bicycle and pedestrian facility in the scoping for this design work.

As you are aware, in the late 1990's, the WisDOT retained the consulting firm of URS to determine the best way to utilize federal funds to improve bicycle travel between Bay View and downtown Milwaukee. That final report dated December, 2002 looked at three alternatives in great detail, including the Hoan Bridge alternative. Even though the Hoan Bridge alternative would be the most direct route, had the largest number of supporters, and would provide spectacular views, the WisDOT/URS selected another alternative. While the City of Milwaukee subsequently agreed to implement the selected alternative, we continue to support providing bicycle and pedestrian accommodation over the Hoan Bridge. In addition, the City's Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force recently voted to formally support bicycle and pedestrian use of the Hoan Bridge.

The State of Wisconsin legislature recently adopted a Complete Streets law which requires the WisDOT to consider bicycle and pedestrian accommodation in all highway construction projects. While most freeways in Wisconsin are not appropriate for bicycles and pedestrians, we believe that the short segment of I-794 known as the Hoan Bridge meets the criteria defined in Chapter Trans 75 of the State statutes.

Lastly, we would like to highlight Title 23 of the United States Code, section 217 Bicycle Transportation and Pedestrian Walkways. Title 23 U.S.C. sec. 217(e) Bridges indicates,

Page 2

"In any case where a highway bridge deck being replaced or rehabilitated with Federal financial participation is located on a highway on which bicycles are permitted to operate at each end of such bridge, and the Secretary determines that the safe accommodation of bicycles can be provided at reasonable cost as part of such replacement or rehabilitation, then such bridge shall be so replaced or rehabilitated as to provide such safe accommodations."

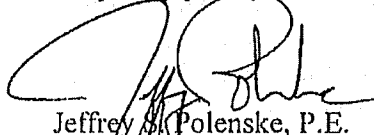
The Hoan Bridge re-decking appears to meet this provision in all aspects. The Hoan Bridge connects with Milwaukee County's Oak Leaf trail system at both ends of the bridge. The URS report indicates that a bicycle facility can be constructed to provide safe passage for all users. Lastly, based on the cost estimate in the URS report and the reported estimates for the Hoan Bridge re-decking, the bicycle/pedestrian component would add approximately one (1) percent to the project cost. It appears, therefore, that federal law may require such accommodations.

The U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration website (www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bikeped/highways.htm) includes several examples of shared use paths within Interstate freeway rights of way, and a link to the League of American Bicyclists list of Interstate bridges with bicycle access. An example of an Interstate bridge in Wisconsin with bicycle and pedestrian facilities is the I-94 bridge over the Saint Croix River in Hudson, Wisconsin.


In a related matter, we would also like to state the City of Milwaukee's position on the ramp configuration at both ends of the Hoan Bridge. The City requests that the WisDOT consider reconfiguring these ramps at the north end so as to create additional lakefront development potential. At the south end, the City requests that consideration is made to provide better access to the Lake Express Ferry.

The City of Milwaukee staff is available to participate in any project meetings regarding the Hoan Bridge re-decking project.

Very truly yours,



Jeffrey S. Polenske, P.E.
City Engineer



Ghassan Korban, Special Deputy
Commissioner of Public Works

MDL: ns

^{MDL}
cc: Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force
Mayor Tom Barrett
Mr. Dewayne Johnson, WisDOT



MILWAUKEE COUNTY
PARKS
N · A · T · I · O · N · A · L
GOLD MEDAL WINNER



CHRIS ABELE, MILWAUKEE COUNTY EXECUTIVE
SUE BLACK, DIRECTOR OF PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE

SENT
July 27, 2011

Governor Scott Walker
115 East Capitol
Madison, WI 53702

Re: Bicycle/Pedestrian Accommodation on Hoan Bridge

Governor Walker:

On March 17 the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors (the "Board") adopted resolution no. 11-154, *enclosed*, creating the Long Range Lakefront Planning Committee ("Committee") to develop a vision for the lakefront, including the planning for O'Donnell Park and the Downtown Transit Center. I am writing this letter on behalf of the Committee to express the Committee's support for a bicycle/pedestrian lane over the Hoan Bridge.

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) has agreed to revisit this issue as part of the Hoan Bridge re-decking process. A feasibility study of a bicycle/pedestrian lane on the Hoan Bridge is likely to be finished by September or October this year. Please accept this letter as a formal request from the Committee to include a bicycle/pedestrian lane over the Hoan Bridge. A letter has also been sent to WisDOT Secretary Mark Gottlieb.

We believe that the short segment of I-794 over the Hoan Bridge meets the criteria defined in Chapter Trans 75 of the State statutes and is appropriate for bicycles and pedestrians traveling from the Bay View area to Downtown and the lakefront. Each end of the Hoan Bridge connects with Milwaukee County's Oak Leaf Trail, making the Bridge a logical link for cyclists and pedestrians. The Committee would like to see a bicycle/pedestrian lane on the Hoan Bridge as a part of the vision for the future of Milwaukee's lakefront. This addition would draw both residents of Milwaukee County and visitors to the lakefront and Downtown areas, transforming the lakefront from Milwaukee's back door to its front door.

The Committee is available to provide any assistance in this matter. Please contact Charlotte Perko, staff assistant (414-257-8011), with any comments or questions.

Sincerely yours,

Sue Black
Chair, Long Range Lakefront Planning Committee
Director, Milwaukee County Department of Parks, Recreation and Culture

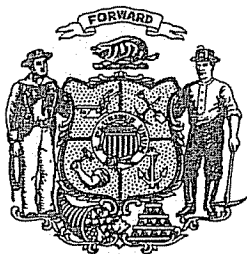


ADDRESS
9480 Watertown Plank Road
Wauwatosa, WI 53226-3560

PHONE/FAX
ph: 414 / 257 PARK (7275)
fax: 414 / 257 6466

EMAIL
parks@milwcnty.com

WEBSITE
countyparks.com



SCOTT WALKER
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
STATE OF WISCONSIN

P.O. Box 7863
MADISON, WI 53707

August 25, 2011

Sue Black
Director, Milwaukee County Department of Parks, Recreation and Culture
9480 Watertown Plank Road
Wauwatosa, WI 53226

Dear Director Black,

Thank you for your letter expressing support for a bicycle/pedestrian lane over the Hoan Bridge. At my direction, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation is reviewing its previous decision on bicycle/pedestrian access on the Hoan Bridge.

While this issue has come up numerous times in the past, I have been assured by Secretary Mark Gottlieb that his department will assess all transportation and safety issues associated with the possibility of this request. With the redecking of the Daniel J. Hoan Memorial Bridge to begin in 2013, it provides the optimal opportunity to revisit this issue.

The League of American Bicyclists has ranked Wisconsin the 3rd most bicycle friendly state. My recently signed budget provides nearly \$8 million dollars to the Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Program to continue Wisconsin's great tradition.

I appreciate the insight that you, the Department of Parks, Recreation and Culture and citizens are offering on this very important issue. I will keep your position in mind moving forward. Your input, as well as that of other state residents is very important to me as I work with the Legislature to address the difficult issues facing Wisconsin.

Sincerely,

Scott Walker
Governor

RECEIVED

AUG 31 2011

MILWAUKEE COUNTY
PARK SYSTEM

SW/ch



MILWAUKEE COUNTY
PARKS
N · A · T · I · O · N · A · L
GOLD MEDAL WINNER

CHRIS ABELE, MILWAUKEE COUNTY EXECUTIVE
SUE BLACK, DIRECTOR OF PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE

SENT
July 27, 2011

Mr. Mark Gottlieb, Secretary
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
4802 Sheboygan Avenue
Madison, WI 53707

Re: Bicycle/Pedestrian Accommodation on Hoan Bridge

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Sincerely yours,



Sue Black
Chair, Long Range Lakefront Planning Committee
Director, Milwaukee County Department of Parks, Recreation and Culture

ADDRESS

9480 Watertown Plank Road
Wauwatosa, WI 53226-3560

PHONE/FAX

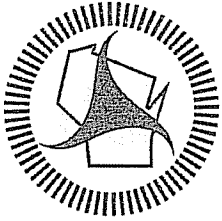
ph: 414 / 257 PARK (7275)
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parks@milwcnty.com

WEBSITE

countyparks.com



Wisconsin Department of Transportation

www.dot.wisconsin.gov

Scott Walker
Governor

Mark Gottlieb, P.E.
Secretary

Office of the Secretary
4802 Sheboygan Avenue, Room 120B
P O Box 7910
Madison, WI 53707-7910

Telephone: 608-266-1113
FAX: 608-266-9912
E-mail: sec.exec@dot.wi.gov

August 16, 2011

Ms. Sue Black
Director, Department of Parks, Recreation and Culture
Chair, Long Range Lakefront Planning Committee
Milwaukee County
9480 Watertown Plank Road
Wauwatosa, WI 53226

Dear Ms. Black:

Thank you for your July 27, 2011 letters providing the Milwaukee County Department of Parks, Recreation and Culture's and the Long Range Lakefront Planning Committee's comments on the Wisconsin Department of Transportation's I-794/Hoan Bridge rehabilitation project.

The Department will be investigating the feasibility of providing bicycle and pedestrian accommodations on the Hoan Bridge over the next several months. The results of that study will be shared with Milwaukee County, the Long Range Lakefront Planning Committee, and other stakeholders for comment.

If you have questions or additional comments, please contact Brian Roper, Southeast Freeways supervisor, at (262) 548-6450.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Gottlieb".

Mark Gottlieb, P.E.
Secretary


GREATER
MILWAUKEE
COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN
MARY ELLEN STANEK

PRESIDENT
JULIA TAYLOR

301 W. WISCONSIN AVE STE 300
MILWAUKEE, WI 53203
ph 414-272-0588
fax 414-272-7051
WWW.GMCONLINE.ORG

July 28th, 2011

Mark Gottlieb, Secretary
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
4802 Sheboygan Avenue
Madison, WI 53707

Dear Secretary Gottlieb:

The Greater Milwaukee Committee supports the Long Range Lakefront Planning Committee's recommendation to open the Hoan Bridge to bicyclists and pedestrians.

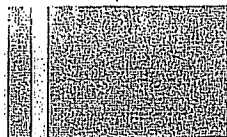
Following comments by the July 13th Long Range Lakefront Planning Committee meeting, it is our understanding that, as part of the planning process of the upcoming re-decking project, the Department of Transportation is exploring the idea of including a bicycle/pedestrian lane on the Hoan Bridge. The GMC sees the Hoan Bridge link as a key link in the transformation of Milwaukee's lakefront. We seek to draw people to the city and the lakefront and a bicycle/pedestrian lane is a logical way to do that.

We urge the Wisconsin Department of Transportation's positive consideration to include a bicycle/pedestrian lane as a part of the Hoan Bridge re-decking process.

Sincerely,



Julia H. Taylor
President, Greater Milwaukee Committee



MAKING MILWAUKEE A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE, LEARN, WORK
AND PLAY



FW: DNR Lakebed Grant information

Seeger, Sally A - DNR

to:

charlotte.perko@milwcnty.com

08/04/2011 01:23 PM

Cc:

"sue.black@milwcnty.com", "Gayan, Sharon L - DNR", "Thompson, Michael C - DNR", "Ritchie, Jim M - DNR", "Sabre, Rachel A - DNR", "Hammen, John R - DNR"

Show Details

History: This message has been forwarded.

CHARLOTTE....here is updated information from the Department regarding Lakebed Grants in the study area of the Lakefront Long-range Planning Committee:

- The Transit Center is not on lakebed and therefore is not subject to the Public Trust.
- A small portion of O'Donnell Park, located only in the parking structure on the south east side, is located in the lakebed area. We will use the Milwaukee County Plat of Survey to help us determine exactly what portion is in lakebed. If the County decides to remove the parking structure at some time in the future, we would then need a more detailed plat survey.
- The upland areas attached to the parking structure are not in lakebed.

The other issue we discussed was the possibility of any LAWCON or other conversion issues related to the grants associated with O'Donnell Park. As noted in Tom Blotz's September 21, 2010 e-mail to Milwaukee County, the terrace on top of O'Donnell Park and the pedestrian bridge were developed with a \$2,350,000 Waterfront Park Aids program grant administered through the Wisconsin Waterways Commission. Our grants program staff in Madison are reviewing that now to determine if there are any grant conditions or conversion issues that would impact future land use changes at O'Donnell Park. I expect to have that information available in the near future.

Thanks.

John R. Hammen

Acting Southeast Regional Director

(Southeast Region Air and Waste Leader)

Telephone: 414.263.8515

2300 N. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive

Milwaukee, WI 53212

Fax Machine: 414.263.8606

e-Mail: john.hammen@wisconsin.gov

DNR GRANT FUNDING

Here is information on the O'Donnell Park grant funding. The project is grant number WPAP-1, and was called Lake Terrace Park Development when the \$2,350,000 grant was awarded in 1988 through the Waterfront Park Aids program. The red area on the plan sheet identifies the approximate boundary of the grant funded project.

The following additional grants were awarded in the lakefront area from McKinley Marina to the lakefront festival grounds:

WPAP-2	Government Pier Access Improvements
S-ADLP-8	Government Pier Walkway Development
WPAP-3	Milwaukee Summerfest Lakewalk
FM-H58	Milwaukee Lakefront Railing Rod Holders
RBF-ENUM6	Milwaukee Art Museum Breakwater Construction
V-1-17E	Milwaukee Yacht Club Sanitary Pumpout
RBF-431	McKinley Harbor Access Development
RBF-952	Milwaukee Sailing Center ADA Ramp, Dock and Transfer \ Lift Stations
S-ADLP-314	Chicago and Northwestern Railroad Corridor Bike Trail Renovation
S-ADLP-31	Lakeside Bike Trail Development
55-00044	Lake Michigan Bike Trail

Jim Ritchie
Southeast Region Government Outreach Team Supervisor
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
2300 N. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive
Milwaukee, WI 53212
(*) phone: (414) 263-8610
(*) fax: (414) 263-8483
(*) e-mail: Jim.Ritchie@Wisconsin.gov

Park, Gene - DNR

From: Blotz, Tom E - DNR
Sent: Tuesday, September 21, 2010 3:38 PM
To: Sue.Black@milwcnty.com
Cc: jkeegan@milwcnty.com; Teves, Mary R - DNR; McCutcheon, Gloria L - DNR
Subject: O'Donnell Park

Hi Sue:

I am sending a reminder that the terrace on top of O'Donnell Park ramp and the pedestrian bridge were developed with a grant of \$2,350,000 from the Waterfront Park Aids program administered through the Wisconsin Waterways Commission. As you may expect certain strings come attached with these grant funds. Chapter NR 50 does not apply to this particular grant but there is another grant condition that the county agreed to reimburse the Department for any and all funds the Department deems appropriate if the sponsor fails to comply with the conditions of the grant. Please keep us informed of decisions being made regarding the fate of this facility. I am sure we will need to discuss this further if the facility is planned to be sold or demolished. Thanks

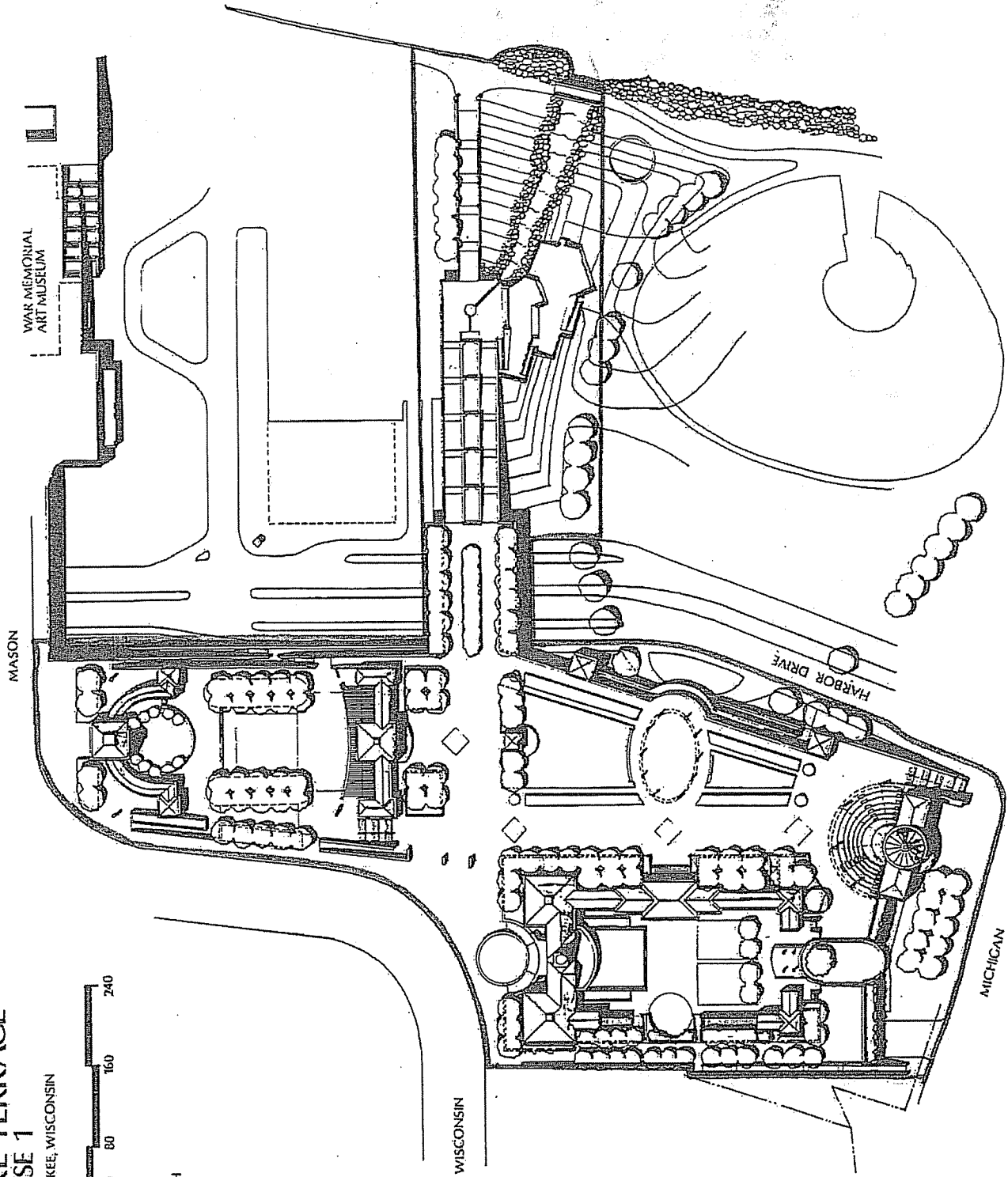
Thomas E Blotz

South East Region Government Outreach Team Supervisor
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
2300 N. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive
Milwaukee, WI 53212
Phone: (414) 263-8610
Fax (414) 263-8483
e-mail tom.blotz@wisconsin.gov

Visit the DNR Bureau of Community Financial Assistance web site: <http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/cfa/cfindex.html>

LAKE TERRACE PHASE 1

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN



MILLER-MEIER KINYON-COOPER ARCHITECTS

MAP-1 Lake Terrace Park
Development (New O'Donnell Park)

WE'RE TOGETHER ON THIS ONE



THE
GOVERNOR

THE
COUNTY
EXECUTIVE

THE
MAYOR

**WORKING TOGETHER... WE'RE GOING TO MAKE
MILWAUKEE'S LAKEFRONT SPECTACULAR!**