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(ITEM) A resolution by Supervisors Rainey and Haas, authorizing the Department of Parks, Recreation and Culture and the Department of Administrative Services-Information Management Services Division to conduct a feasibility assessment of the County’s ability to provide wireless networking services throughout the Milwaukee County Parks System, by recommending adoption of the following:

A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Milwaukee County is committed to providing quality and useful services to residents in order to improve accessibility to technology; and

WHEREAS, the Milwaukee County Parks System serves as an ideal platform to offer a public amenity; and

WHEREAS, in 2013, the Department of Parks, Recreation and Culture (DPRC) and the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) entered into an operating agreement to allow LULAC to install, operate, and maintain computer and networking equipment donated to them by subcontractors to provide wireless networking (WiFi) in Walker Square Park; and

WHEREAS, expanding public WiFi access within the County Parks System will align the County with other major metropolitan areas that make efforts to attract a greater number of visitors with strategic placement of knowledge and economic stimulating services; and

WHEREAS, Milwaukee County should explore building partnerships with agencies that provide technology and networking services in order to maximize the productivity for residents; and

WHEREAS, providing WiFi services will potentially increase the attendance and usage of County parks; and

WHEREAS, an assessment of the costs, locations, equipment, providers, and logistics for these services should be examined by DPRC and the Information Management Services Division of the Department of Administrative Services in order to determine the County’s role and incentive for pursuing WiFi installation projects; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Director of the Department of Parks, Recreation and Culture and the Director of the Department of Administrative Services-Information Management Services Division is hereby authorized and directed to work collaboratively to conduct an informational assessment of potentially viable location sites within the Parks System to house and support WiFi equipment and networking feasibility; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Department of Parks, Recreation and Culture and the Department of Administrative Services-Information Management Services Division will work with policymakers to establish partnerships with WiFi service providers to determine the potential County costs and contribution expectations for potential negotiations in the future, which may include, but not be limited to, Requests for Proposals and operational/management agreements; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Department of Parks, Recreation and Culture shall develop the criteria and procedure for conducting this assessment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Department of Parks, Recreation and Culture and the Department of Administrative Services-Information Management Services Division will provide the Committee on Parks, Energy and Environment with a written informational report on the status of this assessment during the March 2014 cycle; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any potential service or operating agreements for WiFi in the parks shall be subject to approval of the County Board.

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10/31/13
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