

Parks, Energy and Environment Committee on 2022-05-24 9:00 AM - HYBRID MEETING

This meeting will be held in Room 203-R, and will be live-streamed on the County Legislative Information Center:

<https://milwaukeecounty.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

Meeting Time: 05-24-22 09:00

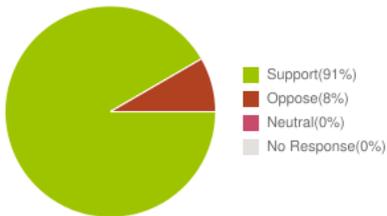
eComments Report

Meetings	Meeting Time	Agenda Items	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
Parks, Energy and Environment Committee on 2022-05-24 9:00 AM - HYBRID MEETING This meeting will be held in Room 203-R, and will be live-streamed on the County Legislative Information Center: https://milwaukeecounty.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx	05-24-22 09:00	26	12	11	1	0

Sentiments for All Meetings

The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

Overall Sentiment



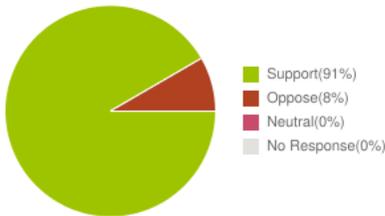
Parks, Energy and Environment Committee on 2022-05-24 9:00 AM - HYBRID MEETING
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05-24-22 09:00

Agenda Name	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
9 22-542 From the Executive Director of Parks providing an informational report on the use of Red Arrow Ice Rink as requested by Resolution 22-396. (INFORMATIONAL ONLY UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE)	11	11	0	0
10 22-543 From the Executive Director of Parks providing an informational report on the Seasonal Park Worker and Lifeguard Recruitment. (INFORMATIONAL ONLY UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE)	1	0	1	0

Sentiments for All Agenda Items

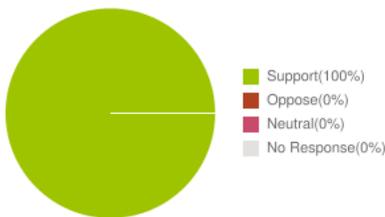
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Overall Sentiment



Agenda Item: eComments for 9 22-542 From the Executive Director of Parks providing an informational report on the use of Red Arrow Ice Rink as requested by Resolution 22-396. (INFORMATIONAL ONLY UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE)

Overall Sentiment



Molly Lefeber

Location:
 Submitted At: 9:42am 05-24-22

The skating community needs this space. There are hundreds and hundreds of skaters in Milwaukee often with no public & free place to skate. Milwaukee skaters depend on DIY skateparks and public park spaces to skate - since there is nothing provided for us already. We need a safe, alcohol free, protected place to skate. Skating

provides mental and physical strength for so many. It also has a wide growing community in Milwaukee. From Roll Train, to roller derby; to CIB (communities in bowls) Milwaukee, the city has been put on the map as a destination for roller skaters. Let's show the rest of the world that we are a vibrant city with amazing community and culture. This rink would be a huge game changer for families all over the area.

Kelsey Crank

Location:

Submitted At: 9:05am 05-24-22

Milwaukee deserves the joy that a pair of roller skates brings. During the pandemic, roller skating has been revitalized as a mainstream activity and this would honor those who have kept it thriving all along. Roller skate tourism is popular as well, and this would make Milwaukee a delightful destination. After all, what's more wholesome fun than a pair of roller skates?

Bridget Suda

Location:

Submitted At: 8:39am 05-24-22

As a Milwaukee resident I would like to voice my support for turning Red Arrow Park into a roller rink during the spring, summer, and fall. I love to roller skate outdoors. The bike paths are fun but an outdoor roller rink would be a great, safe addition to my outdoor repertoire. It would be nice to have an option where I don't have to worry about bikes, dogs, and crossing streets on my skates. Downtown needs an attraction like this. The Fiserv Forum and Deer District have revitalized downtown in a big way and I think an outdoor roller rink could help continue that trend. Roller skating is not only family friendly, it's also a sober activity, unlike like so many other downtown activities. This could be an affordable, sober activity that would attract a diverse crowd. In our segregated city, we need more excuses to come together! I imagine food trucks or and ice cream and lemonade would be a big hit.

Caroline Hudson

Location:

Submitted At: 7:52pm 05-23-22

Adding an outdoor roller rink would bring families and tourists alike into our city center. There is very little happening in the summer months to draw people in and it would be a win win for both the city in revenue and for constituents to have more activities available.

Karen Duerr

Location:

Submitted At: 7:15pm 05-23-22

I fully support the use of Red Arrow Ice Rink as a roller skating rink in the summer months. I think this is a family-friendly activity that will drive visitors and business to downtown Milwaukee. I can see food trucks being at the rink during the summer months and this being a big draw to those who want to roller skate there. It will be a great way to provide a positive, healthy activity to the Milwaukee city center. I do think converting the ice rink to a roller skating rink in the warmer months is a fantastic idea. Thank you.

Ruth Lawson

Location:

Submitted At: 3:19pm 05-23-22

Good morning, Board Members.

Thank you for your time reviewing the idea of enhancing Red Arrow Park's skating rink to include roller skating.

As the committee noted, Slice of Ice is a Milwaukee institution, however, being able to utilize that large, empty space in the heart of downtown during non-winter months is a must to create a sense of community through inclusion of roller skating.

Milwaukeeans are always looking for new, exciting ways to enjoy this great city on a Great Lake. Bringing roller skating to Red Arrow offers a fun, multi-generational, multi-cultural gathering space for residents and visitors alike.

Roller skating has grown in popularity since the pandemic started and currently shows no signs of slowing. It's a fun sport people can do solo or with a group and only requires a flat surface to roll on.

Milwaukee County already has plenty of beer gardens, golf courses, and special events. The County Parks website even boasts, "there's always something new to discover in your Milwaukee County Parks."

Let's commit to something new in Red Arrow Park - let's commit to community building through roller skating.

Thank you for your consideration,

Ruth Lawson
3747 S 102nd Street
Greenfield, WI 53228

Jodi Delfosse

Location:
Submitted At: 12:29pm 05-23-22

This is a great option to provide free or low cost recreation while using existing infrastructure!

Ellen Fine

Location:
Submitted At: 11:38am 05-23-22

Please activate red Arrow Park as a roller skating rink. It is a Rink after all. And people want it. Milwaukee county needs a active, healthy, family friendly, non-alcoholic, inclusive activity downtown. Rollerskating is all those things. Please stop looking for another solution when there already is one. Support those who elected you and give them what they are asking for, not a different activation of this park. The pools are closed because there is no staff and there are plenty of people willing to run this rink. There is violence downtown because there is nothing for people to do but drink. People need some thing to do. Kids need something to do. Every other major city has this. It's difficult to argue some thing that seems so obvious!!

Beth Walters

Location:
Submitted At: 10:48am 05-23-22

My full support of the use of Red Arrow Park for roller skating goes far beyond just being an enjoyable pastime. Health and fitness, vibrant atmosphere, family fun, local business revenue and adding city attractions are additional reasons I support this agenda item.

Lauren Ekins

Location:
Submitted At: 10:38am 05-23-22

Milwaukee has a robust, enthusiastic, and lively roller skating community that is bound to only grow further with the allowance of roller skating at Red Arrow Park. Roller skating at the Park has the potential to positively impact the Milwaukee community in numerous ways including (but definitely not limited to) providing a healthy and constructive activity for all, encouraging conversation and unity among our very divided city by bringing those of different backgrounds together, and demonstrating Milwaukee as an inclusive city.

Allowing roller skating at Red Arrow Park would undoubtedly draw individuals from outside the city and even outside the state - the love for roller skating by the entire skate community cannot be understated here - and this could potentially lead to increased income for the city and local businesses due to tourism. Roller skating provides Milwaukee youth a healthy alternative to the unsavory and destructive activities we have seen an increase in. The gun violence and car thefts committed by teens and young adults could potentially be decreased by giving these demographics something enjoyable to participate in. Destruction often is a result of boredom, but give the youth something to do and become passionate about, and you could thwart negativity.

Skating is simultaneously an accessible form of art, sport, and leisure, drawing in those of assorted interests and

encouraging personal growth. The friendships and connections formed through roller skating is another major positive that should be noted. Milwaukee is an incredibly divided city and has far-reaching reputation as being such, but skating brings people together, and togetherness and shared interests helps to forge empathy and understanding. This is an opportunity to invest in not only the city's reputation, but in the local community itself in a meaningful way. City support of the skating community by the city would be viewed as another large step towards inclusivity and support of the city's wide array of citizens.

Anthony Di Frances

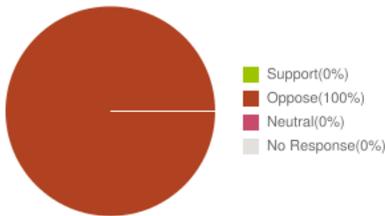
Location:

Submitted At: 10:06am 05-21-22

Just a fantastic idea -- We roller skaters are stuck skating indoors during the sweet, sweet warm weather months in want of such a facility. Or we dodge rocks, cracks, litter, and other users on recreational trails so we can enjoy the fresh air and sunshine. At Red Arrow Park, we could skate excellently and skate with excitement - not with "well, this rough surface peppered with sticks and debris will have to do"-type settling. PLUS PLUS PLUS, we can hang out together, meet other skaters, and spend money parking, snacking, coffeeing, and hopefully running into Giannis :) Thanks for your time and consideration!!!

Agenda Item: eComments for 10 22-543 From the Executive Director of Parks providing an informational report on the Seasonal Park Worker and Lifeguard Recruitment. (INFORMATIONAL ONLY UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE)

Overall Sentiment



Julia Carian

Location:

Submitted At: 10:47pm 05-23-22

This report is nonsense. It is packed with helpless complacency and bizarre detailing of an entirely ineffective advertising campaign. The report details that only 6% percent of aquatics seasonal positions had been filled as of April. The report states, "Every year the number of returning and new recruits for seasonal positions is less than the year before..." but does not analyze whether current pay rates are competitive or why the jobs remain unfilled. Supply and demand clearly indicates that if the positions are harder to fill year after year, we are not offering enough money to make these jobs attractive to applicants.

The County has recently announced that it will not be able to open the majority of deep water pools due to the lack of lifeguards. It is also closing the majority of wading pools and even splash pads due to lack of seasonal staff. The current job listing posted (Park Worker I: Under general supervision, to monitor and assist at wading pools and Park Worker III: Under general supervision, to operate and maintain park wading pools) makes it very clear why these positions were only 6% staffed, when it specifies: Min Hiring Rate \$9.11 - Max Hiring Rate \$12.19. This is not even close to an attractive wage rate for these positions.

Furthermore, the report states that the Parks Department is working closely with high schools and guidance counselors to try to fill these positions. This is not happening effectively. My son is a three-season athlete (including varsity swimming) at Rufus King, and neither he nor any of his teammates in any sport or classmates in any class have been notified, approached, or recruited in any way to apply for summer positions with the County Parks. Our community is full of youth seeking well-compensated employment for the summer. Unfortunately, the

County is not offering good wages, nor is it directly reaching the intended audience with its recruiting campaign.

The report claims that a recruiting campaign has made more than 3 million "impressions," but the entire population of Milwaukee County doesn't even begin to approach that number of people, much less the number of teens. If the advertisements aren't being directed to Milwaukee County teens, what are we even doing with this advertising budget? Large, unattractive billboards are not going to drive teen job applications. A clickable approach is needed.

The County should be asking high school teachers, coaches, and administrators to post these opportunities directly to students, and it should be paying a reasonable wage (\$12-\$15 for parks attendants, \$17-\$22 for lifeguards).

It is vital that the County hire local teens to staff these positions. We need our youth productively employed in prosocial pursuits while school is out, and we need safe recreational spaces for youth and family to cool off in the summer heat. When our community lacks these basics, violence increases and health and safety for all are jeopardized.

Please act with urgency to increase these pay rates and have the parks post the increased pay and job application links directly on official social media accounts (not random advertising and billboards) so that they can be shared widely by community members, teachers, and coaches. We can, and must, get our vital public infrastructure appropriately staffed for summer!