

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Inter-Office Communication

Date: August 16, 2024

To: Marcelia Nicholson, Chairwoman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

From: Guy Smith, Executive Director for Milwaukee County Parks

Subject: From the Executive Director of Milwaukee of County Parks, providing an informational report for a possible City of Wauwatosa storm sewer easement near 113th Street and Watertown Plank Road.

File Type: Informational Report

REQUEST

This report is for informational purposes, there is no request at this time.

POLICY

59.17(2)(b)3., Wis. Stats., states that the “county board may continue to exercise the authority under s. 59.52(6) with regard to land that is zoned as a park...”. In the law of property, authority over “land” includes authority over all rights appurtenant to the land.

Wisconsin State Statutes:	§ 59.17(2)(b)3.
Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances:	
Specific Adopted Budget:	
Specific Adopted Budget Amendment:	
Specific Adopted Capital Project:	

BACKGROUND

The City of Wauwatosa is in the process of upgrading their drainage outfalls across the city. During the course of this project it was discovered that the City has several outfalls that drain onto Milwaukee County Parks land. The purpose of this report is to provide advanced notice on a future proposal to upgrade one of those storm sewer outfalls which will require the conveyance of some park land in the area of N 113th St and W Watertown Plank Rd.

The existing outfall was installed in the 1970’s by WisDOT as part of the Watertown Plank Road reconstruction project, but no records of an easement were located. However, Parks were provided copies of the right of entry and temporary easements granted previously by the County allowing permission to install the outfall. Therefore, Parks and City of Wauwatosa would like to request a permanent easement at this location.

The City of Wauwatosa evaluated 4 locations that have existing storm sewer outfalls

draining to Underwood Creek. Each was evaluated for adding a parallel outfall or upsizing the existing outfall. Below is a list of those locations:

- At the south end of 120th Street (south of Watertown Plank Road)
- At the south end of 116th Street (south of Watertown Plank Road)
- Along the east side of 115th Street, just north of the railroad tracks (south of Watertown Plank Road)
- South of the 113th Street – Watertown Plank Road intersection

All the existing storm sewer outfalls convey stormwater to Underwood Creek through County parkland. There are no storm sewer outfall alternatives from the Watertown Plank Road drainage basin that are feasible to drain elsewhere besides this parkland area, as all stormwater runoff from the neighborhoods north and south of Watertown Plank Road, drains towards Underwood Creek.

Adding capacity to the outfall at the 113th Street – Watertown Plank Road intersection was determined to be the most effective alternative for improving the storm sewer system in Watertown Plank Road, based on an evaluation of impacts to existing properties, locations of existing utilities, and cost. The other 3 locations will be addressed in the future.

Related File No's:	
Associated File No's (Including Transfer Packets):	
Previous Action Date(s):	

ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Describe how the item aligns to the objectives in the [strategic plan](#):

3B: Enhance the County's fiscal health and sustainability.

FISCAL EFFECT

None

TERMS

None

VIRTUAL MEETING INVITES

Jessica Henderson PE, Civil Engineer, City of Wauwatosa, jhenderson@wauwatosa.net

Chris Jain PE CFM, Senior Civil Engineer City of Wauwatosa, cjain@wauwatosa.net

PREPARED BY: Robert Senglaub, Contracts Manger, Milwaukee County Parks

APPROVED BY:

Guy Smith, Executive Director Milwaukee County Parks *Guy D. Smith*

ATTACHMENTS:

Exhibit A: Original Proposed Easement Map by the City of Wauwatosa

Exhibit B: Milwaukee Parks Proposed Easement Map

Exhibit C: PowerPoint

CC: David Crowley, County Executive
Mary Jo Meyers, Chief of Staff, County Executive's Office
Sheldon Wasserman, Committee on Parks & Culture Chairperson
Steve Taylor, Committee on Parks & Culture Vice Chairperson
Felesia Martin, Committee on Parks & Culture Member
Juan Miguel Martinez, Committee on Parks & Culture Member
Jack Eckblad, Committee on Parks & Culture Member
Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors
Janelle M. Jensen, Legislative Services Division Mgr, Office of the County Clerk
Aaron Hertzberg, Director, Department of Administrative Services
Joseph Lamers, Fiscal & Budget Director, DAS
Vince Masterson, Fiscal & Strategic Asset Coordinator, DAS
Pamela Bryant, Capital Finance Manager, Comptroller's Office
Justin Rodriguez, Capital Finance Analyst, Comptroller's Office
Allyson R. Smith, Committee Coordinator, Office of the County Clerk
Anthony Rux, Budget & Management Analyst, DAS-PSB