

Committee on Parks and Culture on 2025-09-02 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: 09-02-25 09:00

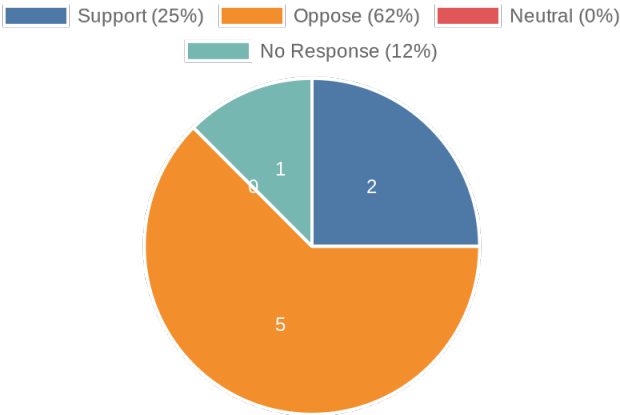
eComments Report

Meetings	Meeting Time	Agenda Items	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
Committee on Parks and Culture on 2025-09-02 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	09-02-25 09:00	23	8	2	5	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



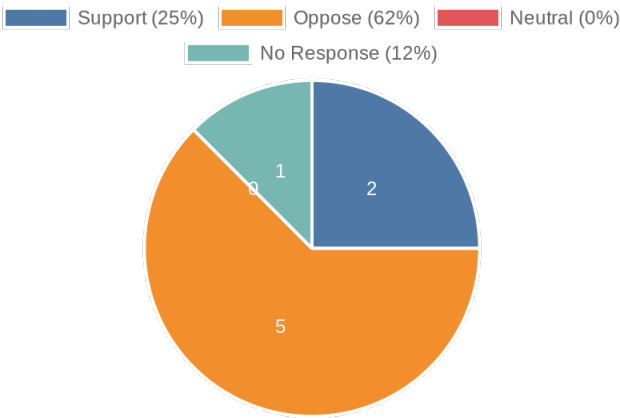
Committee on Parks and Culture on 2025-09-02 9:00 AM - HYBRID MEETING
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09-02-25 09:00

Agenda Name	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
7 25-552 From the Executive Director of Milwaukee County Parks requesting approval of 2025 Fund for the Arts ("CAMPAC") allocations.	4	1	3	0
8 25-587 From the Economic Development Director, Department of Administrative Services, providing an update on the disposition of the Charles Allis Art Museum and Collection (INFORMATIONAL ONLY UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE)	1	1	0	0
9 25-586 From the Economic Development Director, Department of Administrative Services, providing an informational report on the preservation of the Milwaukee County Collection and the disposition process for surplus property during the Milwaukee Public Museum transition. (INFORMATIONAL ONLY UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE)	3	0	2	0

Sentiments for All Agenda Items

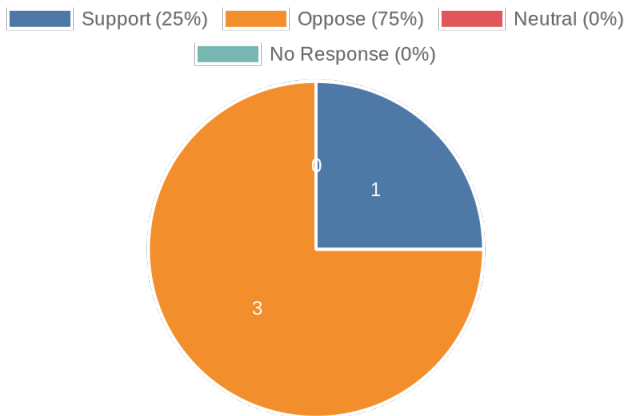
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Overall Sentiment



Agenda Item: eComments for 7 25-552 From the Executive Director of Milwaukee County Parks requesting approval of 2025 Fund for the Arts ("CAMPAC") allocations.

Overall Sentiment



Abi Michalski

Location:

Submitted At: 9:10am 09-02-25

Hi, my name is Abi, a Milwaukee County resident. I'm urging you to oppose the 31% cut to First Stage's CAMPAC funding. First Stage supports jobs, tourism, and essential arts education for the young people of our community. Please vote no on the proposed cuts and work to restore funding. Thank you.

MEGAN MCGEE

Location:

Submitted At: 8:04pm 09-01-25

While I'm glad to see allocations being approved, I'm disappointed to learn that the total CAMPAC funds were reduced by 25% in the budget - especially in a state where we already invest so little in arts and culture, and at a time when our society is so full of fear and division. Ex Fabula, whose mission is to connect Milwaukee through the art of storytelling, has weathered challenge after challenge - and still, we're putting on events that build cultural humility and support mental health - like our award-winning Deaf StorySlam and AfterDark: For the Culture events, which center Black and Brown voices. To some, this might seem like "just trimming \$3000" off the 9K we received last year, but to us, it's less money to pay artists. It's fewer events, and thus fewer attendees saying "I felt seen and safe" and "I felt the love and acknowledgement". And at some point, all these cuts may make it impossible to exist at all.

So, thank you for investing in the arts - I do appreciate it - but I wanted to be sure you know that the cut is felt and will have negative consequences. I hope you will take a different path and increase arts and culture funding next year. The City of Baltimore made strategic investments in youth jobs, mental health, violence prevention, and the arts; now, violent crime has decreased there. I would love for us to study and learn from those stories.

Bethany Kasprzyk

Location:

Submitted At: 12:22pm 09-01-25

I strongly urge you all to reconsider these funding cuts to the CAMPAC budget. Ultimately, arts & cultural amenities are a big part of what draws people to places. These amenities drive tourism and decisions on where to live. I personally chose to relocate to Milwaukee ~2 years ago because it provided the amenities I wanted, including arts & culture.

It appears that since last year funding has been evenly allocated without regard for the size or scope of the institution, the revenue it brings into the city, or any other factors. I don't believe that reflects the value these institutions bring to our County. Additionally, it does not take into account circumstances such as the awful flood damage recently suffered by Milwaukee Rep. I want to highlight Milwaukee Rep because I am so grateful for its efforts to provide arts education and make theater accessible to the community. It is a wonderful organization and our community benefits from it so much. I ask that the Parks & Culture Board to allocate funding in a way that considers that immense community benefit.

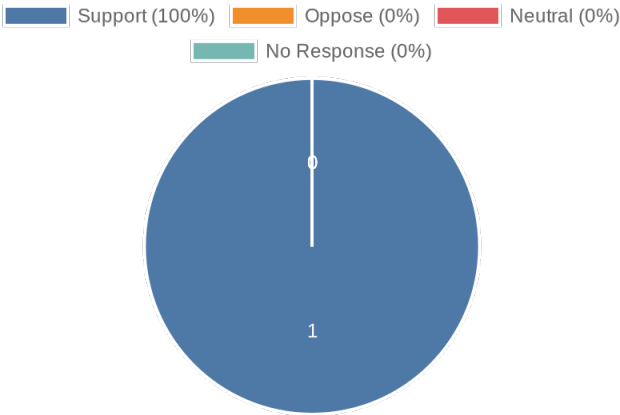
Alexa Bishop

Location:
Submitted At: 12:55pm 08-28-25

Hi, my name is Alexa, a Milwaukee County resident. I'm urging you to oppose the 31% cut to Milwaukee Rep's CAMPAC funding. The Rep supports jobs (including mine!), tourism, and essential arts education. Please stop these proposed cuts and work to restore funding. Thank you.

Agenda Item: eComments for 8 25-587 From the Economic Development Director, Department of Administrative Services, providing an update on the disposition of the Charles Allis Art Museum and Collection (INFORMATIONAL ONLY UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE)

Overall Sentiment



Jade Hess

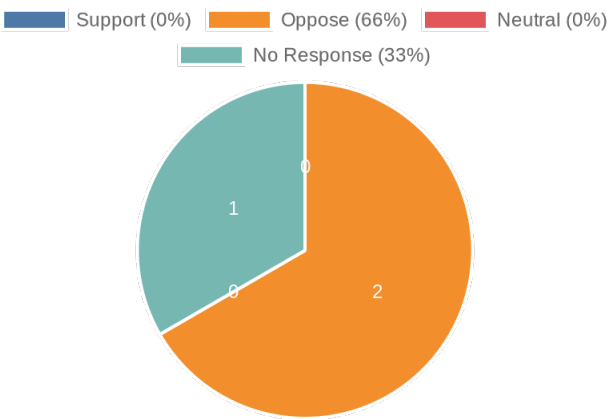
Location:
Submitted At: 9:37am 09-02-25

I have had the great honor and pleasure of caring for the Charles Allis Collection and home for almost 3 years. I've seen the Collection through many changes and seen the different faces in the archives here that this home has held since being donated in 1945. Charles and Sarah's name is embedded in the history of this City, from the

naming of West Allis, to Charles being the first to support the Layton Art School (now Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design), to hosting the Morning Glory Art Fair for years (now held in the deer district). The Allis has been a pivotal stepping stone for many artists, programs, musicians, actors, dancers, painters, and other creatives alike. I know what great potential the Allis has, and those who step foot in these doors can see the same. For the past 2 years, the priority in the Allis Collection was making it viewable in storage in order to curate to the fullest of the Collections' ability. You can't know what you have without seeing it, and you can't keep people coming back without appropriate Collection rotation. The wonders of the Allis Collection and home are endless, and the people of Milwaukee deserve a hub where they have accessible art and the space for growing creative Programs. I urge you to come visit, and see for yourself how bright the future is for the Allis.

Agenda Item: eComments for 9 25-586 From the Economic Development Director, Department of Administrative Services, providing an informational report on the preservation of the Milwaukee County Collection and the disposition process for surplus property during the Milwaukee Public Museum transition. (INFORMATIONAL ONLY UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE)

Overall Sentiment



Cori Huston

Location:
Submitted At: 8:16pm 09-02-25

Here are my initial comments on the meeting today at the courthouse.
On the Matter of "We have been completely transparent every step of the way." - Milwaukee Public Museum
On Tuesday, members of the community were given only a short time to present our concerns about the Milwaukee Public Museum. I would like to follow up on one specific claim that was made: that MPM has been transparent every step of the way and that the public has been fully involved in shaping the museum's future. If that were true, it is important to ask: what questions were the public actually allowed to answer?
If the question were: Do you want to preserve Milwaukee County's Public Museum? — the answer would have been a resounding yes.
If the question were: Do you want to add more years of Milwaukee history and cover more stories? — the answer again would be yes.
But if the question had been: Do you want to redesign and transform the museum according to cultural and political trends? — the response would have been far more hesitant.
And if the question had been: Do you want to remove the Streets of Old Milwaukee, abandon the existing dioramas and murals, reduce the European Village to fragments, and replace an immersive public museum with a

building half the size, emphasizing only science and natural history? — the answer would have been very different.

The truth is, the public was never given those choices. In fact, when we submitted an open records request to obtain the actual survey questions asked, our request was denied — despite Wisconsin's open records law promising a "presumption of complete public access".

That is why many in this community do not accept the assertion that this process has been transparent. Requests for information have been dismissed, and public concerns have been described by Dr. Ellen Censky herself as mere "public pushback," not as legitimate input.

Meanwhile, the State of Wisconsin has secured an ownership stake in the new museum as part of its \$40 million contribution. Milwaukee County — which owns the collection and the current building — has committed \$45 million, yet has no comparable ownership stake. That is not transparency, and it is not equity for the taxpayers of Milwaukee County.

The community deserves answers to the questions we were never allowed to answer.

Shad Budda

Location:

Submitted At: 8:30am 09-02-25

The museum contains the collective wealth of the community. No one should be authorized to dispose of that wealth. No private entity should be allowed to acquire that property.

Chris Chan

Location:

Submitted At: 6:16am 09-02-25

I believe that the Milwaukee Public Museum needs to preserve the existing exhibits and keep them available to the public. These exhibits, particularly the Streets of Old Milwaukee, should not be destroyed, sold, or given away, please.