

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Inter-Office Communication

Date: December 30, 2022

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

From: Guy Smith, Executive Director, Milwaukee County Parks

Subject: From the Executive Director of Milwaukee County Parks, requesting authorization to grant a permanent easement to WE Energies to allow for the replacement of a gas main in and across certain portions of parkland in the City of South Milwaukee by Manitoba Avenue and Oak Creek Parkway

File Type: Action Report

REQUEST

Authorization to grant a permanent easement to WE Energies to allow for the replacement of a gas main in and across certain portions of parkland in the City of South Milwaukee by Manitoba Avenue and Oak Creek Parkway

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

Milwaukee County Parks frequently coordinates with WE Energies for the purpose of utility services both to Parks facilities and across parkland. The current request from WE Energies is to replace and relocate a gas main in the City of South Milwaukee. Currently the high-pressure gas main is located in the right-of-way of Manitoba Avenue and it crosses the Oak Creek by way of a bridge attachment under the 15th Avenue bridge. Relocation will remove the exposed main from the bridge. The proposed gas main would be installed by directional bore under the river and across parkland.

Parks has reviewed this request, and based on the size of the easement, the minimal impact to

parkland, natural areas, and recreational activities, and the overall benefit to the community as it relates to improving system reliability and safety for gas customers in the area, is recommending approval of this easement. Using comparable land values, WE Energies is offering \$0.64/square foot, or approximately \$4,480 (approximate until final easement is calculated) for the proposed easement rights.

New services are installed by WE Energies and their contractors, and permission for installation work is granted through the Parks Right-of-Entry permit process. Granting the permanent easement is necessary for the long-term operation of the utility on Park property and requires authorization from the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors and the County Executive.

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

ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN

This easement is related to improved reliability of gas service and safety to county residents in the area and also helps Parks meet its revenue goals.

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

Monies received for the easement helps Parks meet revenue goals.

3C: Dismantle barriers to diverse and inclusive communities

Ensures reliable gas to County residents

FISCAL EFFECT

Increase of revenues in the current budget year of approximately \$4,480 to help meet revenue targets.

TERMS

- The easement is permanent.
- One-time payment of approximately \$4,480.
- The easement size is 0.1607 Acre

VIRTUAL MEETING INVITES

Erica Goblet, Contracts Manager, Milwaukee County Parks

PREPARED BY:

Erica Goblet, Contracts Manager

APPROVED BY:

Guy Smith, Parks Executive Director *Guy Smith*

ATTACHMENTS:

Resolution

Fiscal Note

Draft Easement

Aerial Map

cc: David Crowley, County Executive
Mary Jo Meyers, Chief of Staff, County Executive's Office
Sheldon Wasserman, Supervisor District 3, PEEC Chair
Steven Shea, Supervisor District 8, PEEC Vice Chair
Felicia Martin, Supervisor District 7, PEEC Member
Juan Miguel Martinez, Supervisor District 12, PEEC Member
Steve Taylor, Supervisor District 17, PEEC 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
Kelsey Evans, Committee Coordinator, Office of the County Clerk
Ciara Miller, Research & Policy Analyst, Office of the Comptroller
Anthony Rux, Budget & Management Analyst, DAS-PSB