

**COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
INTEROFFICE COMMUNICATION**

DATE February 14, 2012

TO Supervisor Michael Mayo, Sr. Chairperson, Transportation, Public Works & Transit Committee

FROM Frank Busalacchi, Director of Transportation

SUBJECT Professional Services Contract for Legal Services for the Zoo Interchange

ISSUE:

Chapter 56.03 required any professional service contractor for Milwaukee County be brought to the County Board if any work has been performed before the contract has been signed that is under \$50,000.00.

BACKGROUND:

The Director of Transportation was requested to take the lead role in negotiation for Milwaukee County regarding the Zoo Interchange project. Because the project already as an established timeframe (see attached) for completion of this project, it has been moving at a fast pace.

The Department of Transportation took on the initiative to have oversight to ensure that Milwaukee County's Interest were been taken into consideration. In order to do this properly it was discovered that the Zoo Interchange Project had a need to utilize county property that performed essential services to the citizens of Milwaukee County

To keep with the timeline and to ensure the best interest of Milwaukee county, an attorney was needed with an expertise in Real Estate Law. After conversations with WISDOT a decision was made to prepare a Professional Service Contract for \$50,000 to keep the project moving and to address the real estate issues. Due to some difficulty in determining the proper funding stream there was a delay in processing the Professional Service Agreement.

RECOMMENDATION:

Request for the committee to approve the Professional Service Contract with MICHAEL BEST to provide legal services for Real Estate Law as it pertains to the best interest of Milwaukee County. At this point in time the contact is limited to \$50,000 and would look for a recommendation from the committee regarding a continuation of these services from this law firm after the \$50,000 cap has been reached or to prepare an RFP for those services.

Prepared by: Fay L. Roberts

Frank Busalacchi, Director
Department of Transportation