

**COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE**  
Inter-Office Communication

Date: June 24, 2022]

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

From: Guy Smith, Executive Director, Parks

Subject: Update on the National Park Service Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Program Grant – Kinnickinnic River Oak Leaf Trail

File Type: Informational

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**REQUEST**

From the Executive Director of Parks providing an information report on the withdrawal of the National Park Service Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Program Grant application by Milwaukee County Parks.

**POLICY**

Per Section 56.06 of the Milwaukee County General Ordinances, authorization is required from the County Board to apply for and execute discretionary federal or state grants that require a local match.

Wisconsin State Statutes:	
Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances:	56.06
Specific Adopted Budget:	
Specific Adopted Budget Amendment:	
Specific Adopted Capital Project:	

**BACKGROUND**

In 2021, Milwaukee County Parks requested authorization via File #21-921 to apply for the National Park Service Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Program Grant (NPS ORLP) to improve trail equity and expand trails in underserved neighborhoods. Milwaukee County Parks proposed to utilize work planned by MMSD to remove the concrete channel from the Kinnickinnic river as a match. During an administrative review after a tentative award for 50% of trail costs (\$453,954) from the NPS ORLP program, it was determined that the grant timeline and the larger MMSD project timeline did not align. The grant application was subsequently withdrawn to free up the funding for other NPS projects. Parks and MMSD are still planning to coordinate on the construction of an off-road portion of the Oak Leaf Trail from Pulaski Park to 27<sup>th</sup> Street in the coming years.

Milwaukee County Parks appreciates the National Park Service's focus on investing in underserved and low-income areas and hopes to access these funds in the future. The project scored well and withdrawing the grant does not prejudice against future applications. At the recommendation of NPS ORLPP staff, MCP will likely apply again and continue to pursue diverse funding streams including over 5 million dollars in other federal trail grants currently under review by various agencies.

Related File No's:	21-921
Associated File No's (Including Transfer Packets):	
Previous Action Date(s):	11/10/2021

### **ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

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

- 2A: Determine what, where, and how we deliver services to advance health equity
- 2B: Break down silos across County government to maximize access to and quality of services offered
- 3A: Invest "upstream" to address root causes of health disparities
- 3B: Enhance the County's fiscal health and sustainability
- 3C: Dismantle barriers to diverse and inclusive communities

### **FISCAL EFFECT**

NA

### **TERMS**

NA

### **VIRTUAL MEETING INVITES**

NA

### **PREPARED BY:**

Jessica Weinberg, Trails Coordinator, Milwaukee County Parks

Jeremy Lucas, Director of Administration & Planning, Milwaukee County Parks

### **APPROVED BY:**

Jim Tarantino, Deputy Director Milwaukee County Parks



### **ATTACHMENTS:**

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