

## MILWAUKEE COUNTY FISCAL NOTE FORM

**DATE:** November 24, 2025

Original Fiscal Note ☒

Substitute Fiscal Note ☐

**SUBJECT:** A resolution authorizing the Corporation Counsel to select and engage outside counsel on a contingency fee basis to initiate lawsuits against companies that engaged in practices which resulted in environmental contamination, such as degradation of the soil and waters of Milwaukee County by perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl (PFAS) substances, as well as those companies that engage in practices that which contribute to climate change and cause Milwaukee County residents to suffer the effects of climate change.

### FISCAL EFFECT:

☒ No Direct County Fiscal Impact

☐ Increase Capital Expenditures

☐ Existing Staff Time Required

☐ Decrease Capital Expenditures

☐ Increase Operating Expenditures

☐

(If checked, check one of two boxes below)

☐ Increase Capital Revenues

☐ Absorbed Within Agency's Budget

☐ Decrease Capital Revenues

☐ Not Absorbed Within Agency's Budget

☐ Decrease Operating Expenditures

☐ Use of contingent funds

☐ Increase Operating Revenues

☐ Decrease Operating Revenues

*Indicate below the dollar change from budget for any submission that is projected to result in increased/decreased expenditures or revenues in the current year.*

|                                   | <b>Expenditure or Revenue Category</b> | <b>Current Year</b> | <b>Subsequent Year</b> |
|-----------------------------------|--|---------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Operating Budget</b>           | Expenditure                            | \$0                 | \$0                    |
|                                   | Revenue                                | \$0                 | \$0                    |
|                                   | Net Cost                               | \$0                 | \$0                    |
| <b>Capital Improvement Budget</b> | Expenditure                            | \$0                 | \$0                    |
|                                   | Revenue                                | \$0                 | \$0                    |
|                                   | Net Cost                               | \$0                 | \$0                    |

## DESCRIPTION OF FISCAL EFFECT

In the space below, you must provide the following information. Attach additional pages if necessary.

- A. Briefly describe the nature of the action that is being requested or proposed, and the new or changed conditions that would occur if the request or proposal were adopted.
- B. State the direct costs, savings or anticipated revenues associated with the requested or proposed action in the current budget year and how those were calculated. <sup>1</sup> If annualized or subsequent year fiscal impacts are substantially different from current year impacts, then those shall be stated as well. In addition, cite any one-time costs associated with the action, the source of any new or additional revenues (e.g. State, Federal, user fee or private donation), the use of contingent funds, and/or the use of budgeted appropriations due to surpluses or change in purpose required to fund the requested action.
- C. Discuss the budgetary impacts associated with the proposed action in the current year. A statement that sufficient funds are budgeted should be justified with information regarding the amount of budgeted appropriations in the relevant account and whether that amount is sufficient to offset the cost of the requested action. If relevant, discussion of budgetary impacts in subsequent years also shall be discussed. Subsequent year fiscal impacts shall be noted for the entire period in which the requested or proposed action would be implemented when it is reasonable to do so (i.e. a five-year lease agreement shall specify the costs/savings for each of the five years in question). Otherwise, impacts associated with the existing and subsequent budget years should be cited.
- D. Describe any assumptions or interpretations that were utilized to provide the information on this form.
- A. Approval of this resolution will authorize Corporation Counsel to execute contingent fee agreements with selected law firms upon approval of the attached Resolution to pursue remedial awards for environmental degradation in Milwaukee County.
- B. There are no direct costs associated with this request. If successful, the County will realize increased revenue in the form of compensatory awards and/or settlement.
- C. There is no anticipated impact to FY 2025. If successful, the County will realize increased revenue in subsequent years. The earliest the County would realize any increased revenue from the contemplated litigation would be FY 2026, but is anticipated to be more likely in subsequent years.
- D. No assumptions or interpretations were used.

Department/Prepared By Melinda Lawrence, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Office of Corporation Counsel

Authorized Signature *Melinda Lawrence*

Did DAS-Fiscal Staff Review? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Did CBDP Review?<sup>2</sup> ☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ Not Required

<sup>1</sup> If it is assumed that there is no fiscal impact associated with the requested action, then an explanatory statement that justifies that conclusion shall be provided. If precise impacts cannot be calculated, then an estimate or range should be provided.

<sup>2</sup> Community Business Development Partners' review is required on all professional service and public work construction contracts.