

SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

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May 6, 2015

Mr. Steven M. Keith, P.E.
Sustainability & Environmental Engineer
Milwaukee County
Architecture, Engineering and Environmental Services
2711 W. Wells Street, Suite 216
Milwaukee, WI 53208

Mr. Brian Russart
Natural Areas Coordinator
Milwaukee County
Department of Parks, Recreation, Culture
9480 Watertown Plank Road
Wauwatosa, WI 53226

Dear Messrs. Keith and Russart:

We are writing to thank you for your service on the Advisory Group for preparation of the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) Root River watershed restoration plan and to ask that Milwaukee County consider adoption of the plan as a guide to attaining improvements in water quality, habitat, and recreational use and access in the Root River watershed. A model resolution for plan adoption that can be adapted for use by Milwaukee County is attached. Such adoption is important to help ensure a common understanding of the plan's findings and recommendations, to enable efficient and effective implementation of the plan, and to facilitate obtaining funding for implementation of recommended projects. As of this date the plan has been adopted by Racine County, the Village of Mt. Pleasant, and the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District. The location of Milwaukee County within the Root River watershed is indicated on the enclosed map.

The plan has recently been certified by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) as being consistent with the USEPA nine elements of a watershed plan. That certification is a very important consideration of Federal and State grant issuing agencies when evaluating applications for funding to implement plan recommendations.

The plan is documented in SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 316 (CAPR No. 316), *A Restoration Plan for the Root River Watershed*, July 2014. In the course of obtaining USEPA certification of the plan as meeting the nine elements, the SEWRPC staff prepared SEWRPC Memorandum Report No. 220 (MR No. 220), *Supplemental Information Developed for the Root River Watershed Restoration Plan*, April 2015. We previously provided Mr. Keith with one paper copy and one compact disk of the full report (CAPR No. 316). With this letter, we are providing one paper copy and one compact disk of the supplemental report (MR No. 220). We are also providing Mr. Russart one paper copy and two compact disks of the supplemental report, consistent with his earlier request for copies of the full report. The full plan report (CAPR No. 316) and executive summary, the supplemental memorandum report (MR No. 220), and background information on the plan can be accessed at: <http://www.sewrpc.org/SEWRPC/Environment/Root-River-Watershed-Restoration-Plan.htm>, and we can provide additional paper or compact disk copies of those documents. Please have your staff contact Ms. Debra A. D'Amico of the SEWRPC staff, at (262) 953-3275, or ddamico@sewrpc.org, if you would like copies.

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Mr. Brian Russart
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As you are aware, the plan was prepared in partnership with the Root-Pike Watershed Initiative Network and the Southeastern Wisconsin Watersheds Trust, Inc. (Sweet Water), with funding from Racine County, the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration through the Wisconsin Coastal Management Program, and the Fund for Lake Michigan. It was developed within the framework set forth in SEWRPC Planning Report No. 50 entitled, *A Regional Water Quality Management Plan Update for the Greater Milwaukee Watersheds*, published in two parts in December 2007

If there should be any questions, or if the Commission staff can be of assistance to the County in its consideration of the plan, please do not hesitate to contact Michael G. Hahn, P.E., P.H., SEWRPC Deputy Director at (262) 953-3243, or mhahn@sewrpc.org.

Sincerely,



Kenneth R. Yunker, P.E.
Executive Director

KRY/MGH/dd
ROOT R WRP LOCAL ADOPTION LETTER MILW CTY (00225367).DOC

Enclosures

cc: Ms. Allison Thielen, Root-Pike WIN
Ms. Linda Reid, SWWT