

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Inter-Office Communication

Date: May 21, 2025

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

From: Guy Smith, Executive Director for Milwaukee County Parks

Subject: Authorization to enter into a Maintenance Agreement with Lake Park Friends for Wahl Avenue Bluff.

File Type: Action Report

REQUEST

From the Executive Director of Milwaukee County Parks, requesting authorization to enter into a Maintenance Agreement with Lake Park Friends for the stabilization and revegetation of the Wahl Avenue Bluff in Lake Park.

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...”

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

BACKGROUND

Wahl Avenue Bluff in Lake Park between North Avenue and Belleview Place contains the highest and steepest slopes in the park, has limited natural vegetation, is dominated by invasive species, and is prone to erosion.

The Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission’s Lake Park Bluff Stability and Community Assessment Report, dated September 2004, determined that this section of bluff represents the most disturbed area of the park.

Parks Department staff have worked with the residents and landscape professionals in the development of a plan that will introduce native species in place of invasive trees and plants, as well as stabilize the bluff to minimize erosion.

On August 8, 2024, the County approved a Right of Entry Permit for the Lake Park Friends to perform maintenance to the Wahl Avenue Bluff situated in Lake Park, roughly

in the boundary of Bradford Avenue on the south and E. Bellevue Pl. on the north, as described in more detail in the Right of Entry Permit. To perform such maintenance, Lake Park Friends contracted with a private landscaping professional to perform the scope of work identified in the Right of Entry Permit and pursuant to a proposal dated July 11, 2024, at LPF's sole cost and expense.

The Parties agree that the work performed according to the Right of Entry Permit was a great success. The Parties wish to continue to maintain the Wahl Avenue Bluff to preserve their initial investment and the work that has already been completed through this Agreement.

Related File No's:	File No. 08-98
Associated File No's (Including Transfer Packets):	
Previous Action Date(s):	3/20/2008

ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN

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

- 2B: Break down silos across County government to maximize access to and quality of services offered
- 3B: Enhance the County's fiscal health and sustainability

FISCAL EFFECT

There is no Fiscal Effect with this agreement.

TERMS


- Initial ten (10) year term
- Unlimited five (5) year renewals with mutual written agreement
- Lake Park Friends and the Wahl Avenue Residents fully fund the maintenance work.

VIRTUAL MEETING INVITES

PREPARED BY:

Robert Senglaub, Contracts Manager, Milwaukee County Parks

APPROVED BY:

Guy Smith, Executive Director, Milwaukee County Parks 

ATTACHMENTS:

Resolution

Fiscal Note

Draft Agreement

Aerial Map of Work Area

2024 Right of Entry Permit

PowerPoint Presentation

CC: David Crowley, County Executive
Mary Jo Meyers, Chief of Staff, County Executive's Office
Sheldon Wasserman, Committee on Parks & Culture Chairperson
Steve Taylor, Committee on Parks & Culture Vice Chairperson
Priscilla Coggs-Jones, Committee on Parks & Culture Member
Jack Eckblad, Committee on Parks & Culture Member
Felesia Martin, Committee on Parks & Culture Member
Juan Miguel Martinez, Committee on Parks & Culture Member
Anne O'Connor, Committee on Parks & Culture 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
Allyson R. Smith, Committee Coordinator, Office of the County Clerk
Anthony Rux, Budget & Management Analyst, DAS-PSB
Sandy Saltzstein, Research and Policy Analyst