

**COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE  
INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION**

DATE : September 18, 2015

TO : Members of the Capital Improvement Committee

FROM : Scott B. Manske, Comptroller

SUBJECT : **High Priority Parks Infrastructure Projects (County Board Resolution 15-526)**

**Background**

County Board Resolution File No. 15-526 (Resolution) was approved in July 2015. The Resolution allocated budget surpluses into Transit, Signal Priority Technology, Parks Infrastructure Improvements, and Employee Compensation.

A total of \$5 million was to be allocated to non-bond eligible Parks projects. Of the \$5 million, \$1 million has been appropriated to the Parks Maintenance operating budget to be used for small projects. The remaining \$4 million was to be allocated to high priority park infrastructure projects (projects) that are likely to enhance operating efficiency, reduce ongoing costs, and provide the community aesthetic evidence of park maintenance.

The Resolution directed the Department of Parks, Recreation and Culture (DPRC) to submit a \$4 million list of projects to the Capital Improvements Committee (CIC).

The recommendations of the Parks Director have been submitted to the CIC so that a formal recommendation can be made to the County Board.

On September 15, 2015, the Committee on Parks, Energy and Environment (Parks Committee) unanimously recommended the list of projects that was submitted to the Parks Committee and to the CIC (Attachment A). The recommendation of the Parks Committee was contingent on the review and recommendation of the CIC.

**\$4 Million Parks Infrastructure Improvement List**

The CIC has received the list submitted by the Director of the DPRC at its September 2015 meeting that total \$4 million.

The Office of the Comptroller has not had sufficient time to perform a thorough analysis to confirm that the projects on the list are not eligible for bond financing. There are three projects on the list that were previously adopted and financed with general obligation bond proceeds. These projects are ongoing and require additional funding to offset shortfalls. They include WP280 Menomonee River Parkway Reconstruction (\$400,000), WP191 Moody Park Revitalization (\$220,000), and WP271 Johnsons Park Pavilion (\$200,000). However, cash financing can be used for all capital projects.

Although, the \$4 million list includes \$400,000 for financing the balance of the Menomonee River Parkway Reconstruction project, the total estimated shortfall is \$2.1 million. A separate appropriation transfer was submitted to and approved by the Finance, Personnel, and Audit Committee that would provide approximately \$1.7 million of unspent bonds from the Debt Service Reserve to finance the balance of estimated shortfall.

The list contained in Attachment A is being submitted to the CIC in accordance with the Resolution.

### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Capital Improvements Committee, after deliberations at its September meeting, approve the accompanying resolution. The resolution expresses the Committee's formal recommendations for projects (Attachment A) that should be financed with the \$4 million identified in County Board Resolution 15-526. It also provides for the Department of Administrative Services, working in cooperation with the Office of the Comptroller, to process an administrative appropriation transfer that reallocates funding to the projects included in Attachment A.



Scott B. Manske  
Comptroller

pc: Chris Abele, County Executive  
Theodore Lipscomb, Sr., County Board Chairman  
Gerry Broderick, Chairman, Parks, Energy and Environment Committee  
Willie Johnson, Jr., Co-Chairman, Finance, Personnel and Audit Committee  
Luigi Schmitt, Co-Chairman, Finance, Personnel and Audit Committee  
Kelly Bablitch, County Board Chief of Staff  
Raisa Koltun, County Executive Chief of Staff  
John Dargle, Director, Parks, Recreation, and Culture  
Greg High, Architecture, Engineering and Environment