

**COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE**  
Inter-Office Communication

Date: June 18, 2025

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

From: Guy Smith, Executive Director for Milwaukee County Parks

Subject: Authorization to grant a 20-year conservation easement to the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District at Washington Park

File Type: Action Report

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**REQUEST**

From the Executive Director of Milwaukee County Parks, requesting authorization to accept a grant from Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) for the installation of Green Infrastructure (GI) Washington Park. Milwaukee County Parks is accepting this grant as the landowner of the property; the current lessee of the property, Urban Ecology Center, will utilize the grant to install GI. Upon completion of the project, Milwaukee County Parks is requesting authorization to grant a 20-year conservation easement to MMSD for the grant-funded GI project located within Washington 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:	

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## **BACKGROUND**

MMSD is responsible for collecting and treating wastewater from local sewerage systems. MMSD seeks to promote the installation of Green Infrastructure (GI), to reduce water pollution level, and does so through its Green Infrastructure Partnership Program (GIPP) providing funding to various entities to install critical GI.

Here, the Urban Ecology Center (UEC) is the Funding Recipient. They lease land from Milwaukee County Parks at 1840 North 40<sup>th</sup> Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53208. The project is anticipated to be completed by December 21, 2026, and consists of

10,672 square feet of native landscaping with a capture capacity of 4,269 gallons, 1,860 square feet of porous pavement with a capture capacity of 5,580 gallons, and 1,115 square feet of bioswales with a capture capacity of 8,363 gallons, providing a total capture capacity of 18,212 gallons.

After completion of the project, Milwaukee County Parks will grant a 20-year conservation easement in favor of MMSD.

Related File No's:	
Associated File No's (Including Transfer Packets):	
Previous Action Date(s):	

## **ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

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

- 3B: Enhance the County's fiscal health and sustainability

## **FISCAL EFFECT**

No fiscal impact.

## **TERMS**

- Twenty-year limited-term conservation easement given to MMSD to keep, preserve, and maintain the green infrastructure.
- The Funding Recipient (UEC) is solely responsible for the operation, maintenance, and evaluation of performance for at least 20 years.

## **VIRTUAL MEETING INVITES**

N/A

### **PREPARED BY:**

Robert Senglaub, Contracts Manager, Milwaukee County Parks

### **APPROVED BY:**

Guy Smith, Executive Director Milwaukee County Parks

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

Resolution  
Fiscal Note  
MMSD GIPP Agreement  
PowerPoint

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