

**COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION**

DATE: January 29, 2026

TO: Marcelia Nicholson-Bovell, Chairwoman, County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Aaron Hertzberg, Director, Department of Administrative Services (DAS)

SUBJECT: Requesting Authorization to Process Certain Fund Transfers associated with Project WC0276 Investing in Justice: Courthouse Complex

REQUEST

The attached resolution requests authorization to process an appropriation transfer of approximately \$700,000 to realign budgets within Project WC0276 *Investing in Justice: Courthouse Complex* (“Project”) so that the budgets better reflect where encumbrances and expenditures are occurring within the Project.

The resolution also requests authorization for the Office of the Comptroller and the Office of Strategy, Budget and Performance (“SBP”) to process future appropriation transfer requests provided by the Department of Administrative Services - Facilities Management Division (DAS-FMD). These future administrative appropriation transfers would improve project management and reporting and would be limited to transfers that:

- Do not change the overall budget amount of the Project
- Do not change the scope of the Project
- Do not change the financing mix of the Project

BACKGROUND

In March 2025, the Director of DAS-FMD requested an appropriation transfer of \$15,400,000 to reallocate budget amounts within the Project. This reallocation aligned budgets with anticipated professional service and construction contract activity to improve expenditure tracking.

To support better financial oversight, DAS-FMD partnered with the Office of the Comptroller and SBP to redesign the Project structure within Infor, the County’s financial system. The revised structure divided the Project into the following summary projects:

- WC027601 - Investing in Justice: Courthouse Complex (Construction Manager Construction)
- WC027602 - Investing in Justice: Courthouse Complex (Owner Construction)
- WC027603 - Investing in Justice: Courthouse Complex (Equipment)
- WC027604 - Investing in Justice: Courthouse Complex (Design)
- WC027605 - Investing in Justice: Courthouse Complex (Administrative)
- WC027610 - Investing in Justice: Courthouse Complex (Stakeholder Engagement)
- WC027620 - Investing in Justice: Courthouse Complex (Funding and Finance)
- WC027630 - Investing in Justice: Courthouse Complex (Justice Policy and Programs)
- WC027640 - Investing in Justice: Courthouse Complex (Project Contingency)

In April 2025, the County Board and County Executive approved County Board Resolution 25-274 (“Resolution”), which authorized the appropriation transfer.

The updated project structure has significantly improved the project team’s ability to manage and monitor expenditures. The attached resolution includes a new request to realign approximately \$700,000 within the summary projects listed above so that budgets continue to reflect actual and anticipated spending. It also seeks approval for future administrative transfers that will support accurate and timely financial tracking for what is expected to be the County’s largest capital project.

RECOMMENDATION

The Department of Administrative Services – Facilities Management Division recommends approval of the attached resolution. The resolution authorizes an appropriation transfer of approximately \$700,000 to realign budgets within Project WC0276, *Investing in Justice: Courthouse Complex* (“Project”). It also authorizes the Office of the Comptroller and the Office of Strategy, Budget and Performance to process future administrative appropriation transfer requests submitted by DAS-FMD for the Project. These administrative transfers would be limited to those that:

- Do not change the overall budget amount of the Project
- Do not change the scope of the Project
- Do not change the financing mix of the Project

Aaron Hertzberg

Aaron Hertzberg
Director, Department of Administrative Services

cc: David Crowley, County Executive
Liz Sumner, Milwaukee County Comptroller
Mary Jo Meyers, Chief of Staff, County Executive
Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, County Board
Sean Hayes, Director, DAS-FMD
Tony Raab, Director, DAS-FMD-AE&ES
Peter Nilles, Director – Facilities Planning, DAS-FMD
Pamela Bryant, Director of Capital Finance, Office of the Comptroller
Justin Rodriguez, Capital Project Manager, Office of the Comptroller
Joe Lamers, Director, SBP
Vince Masterson, Capital Budget Manager, SBP
Stephen Cady, Research Director, Office of the Comptroller – Research Division