

MILWAUKEE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

DATE: July 19, 2022

AMENDMENT NO. 1 to Item #2

Resolution File No. 22-769

Ordinance File No.

COMMITTEE: Parks and Culture

OFFERED BY SUPERVISOR(S): Burgelis

ADD AND/OR DELETE AS FOLLOWS:

Amend the WHEREAS clause at or near line 13 as follows:

WHEREAS, the father of American landscape architecture, Frederick Law Olmsted (1822-1903), was a renowned landscape architect, urban planner, conservationist, and social reformer ~~adherent of the City Beautiful Movement~~, who is known for promoting democracy through his designing of urban parks, including Central Park in New York City; and

Amend the WHEREAS clause at or near line 28 as follows:

WHEREAS, Olmsted was a contemporary of the leading Milwaukee parks proponent of the 1890s, founding chairman of the City of Milwaukee Park Commission, ~~father of the Milwaukee County Park System~~, and namesake for the former Wahl Park, Christian Wahl (1829-1901) (File No. 20-548); and Olmsted inspired future landscape architecture and planning in the United States, influencing the ~~Garden City Movement~~ the urban and national parks movements in America; and was an inspiration for Milwaukee County Parks Commissioner Charles B. Whitnall's vision for parks and parkways, and Milwaukee's greenway boulevards; and

WHEREAS, the City of Milwaukee's Park Board chaired by Christian Wahl, hired Olmsted in the 1890s to help select early first park sites and to design three of them, including West Park, who where Olmsted implemented his characteristic elements of naturalistic vistas, curvilinear pathways, and a picturesque lagoon; and Milwaukee County later acquired the renamed Washington Park from the City of Milwaukee in 1937; and

Amend the WHEREAS clause at or near line 41 as follows:

WHEREAS, Washington Park has historically been a multi-use space with facilities constructed for outdoor performances, athletic fields, lawn tennis courts, boating, ice skating, and formerly a six-hole golf course, a horse racing track, and a toboggan slide; and

WHEREAS, Washington Park was home to the Milwaukee County Zoo from 1892 to 1958, growing from a small “deer paddock” specified in Olmsted’s general plan in 1892, to include a miniature mammal and bird display, to by the turn of the 20th Century holding 800 animals on 23 acres, all prior to the construction of the current Milwaukee County Zoo; and