

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Inter-Office Communication

Date: November 13, 2019

To: Supervisor James "Luigi" Schmitt, Chair, Committee on Finance and Audit
Supervisor Jason Haas Chair, Committee on Parks, Energy and Environment

From: Jennifer L. Folliard, Director of Audits

Subject: Status Report - Boerner Botanical Gardens Audit (File No. 15-427)

At their meetings in June 2015, the Committees on Finance, Personnel & Audit and Parks, Energy & Environment reviewed our audit report, "Boerner Botanical Gardens Must Address Numerous Needs to Achieve Its Mission," and adopted a resolution indicating County Board concurrence with the report recommendations.

A copy of the Boerner Botanical Gardens audit report can be accessed through the following link:

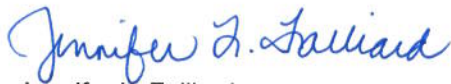
<https://county.milwaukee.gov/files/county/comptroller/Audit/Audit-Reports1/2015/BoernerBotanicalGardensReportORIGINALRevPg35.pdf>

A series of status reports were previously submitted for your committee meetings since December 2015, the last being in June 2019, to communicate the progress toward implementation of our audit recommendations. Attached for your review is the current status report noting updated comments (highlighted yellow) for the two recommendations that were open as of the last status report.

The comments provided by Parks' management suggest that all 25 of our recommendations have been implemented. In general, we agree. However, we are concerned with series of comments made with respect to recommendation #2, where we suggested that the Boerner Botanical Gardens mission statement should be evaluated and revised in light of recommended changes which have occurred from the Master Plan and that any changes deemed necessary should be presented for County Board consideration.

The updates provided by Parks over the eight status reports since issuance of our audit report, noted varied strategies to address this recommendation, to ultimately conclude in the attached status report that the mission statement was reviewed and it has been determined that no changes are necessary at this time.

This status report is informational. Since we consider that 24 of the 25 recommendations to be fully implemented, we do not plan on submitting any further status reports.



Jennifer L. Folliard

JLF/PAG/cah

Attachment

cc: Scott Manske B. Manske, CPA, Milwaukee County Comptroller
Finance and Audit Committee Members
Parks, Energy and Environment Committee Members
Chris Abele, Milwaukee County Executive
Teig Whaley-Smith, Director, Department of Administrative Services
Guy Smith, Director, Dept. of Parks Recreation & Culture
Jeffrey Orlovski, Assistant Chief of Recreation & Business Services, Dept. of Parks, Recreation & Culture
Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, County Board Staff
Steve Cady, Research & Policy Director, Office of the Comptroller
Janelle Jensen, Chief Committee Clerk
Shanin Brown, Committee Coordinator, Finance and Audit
Kelsey Evans, Committee Coordinator, Parks, Energy and Environment