



KK River Flood Management Project in Wilson Park





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- Requested Action – Seeking approval to enter into an Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement (ICA) with the Metropolitan Milwaukee Sewerage District (MMSD) to study, design, and construct flood management improvements within Wilson Park and Wilson Park Creek
- This project continues work to improve flood management within the Kinnickinnic River corridor already complete or underway in Pulaski-Milwaukee Park and Jackson Park

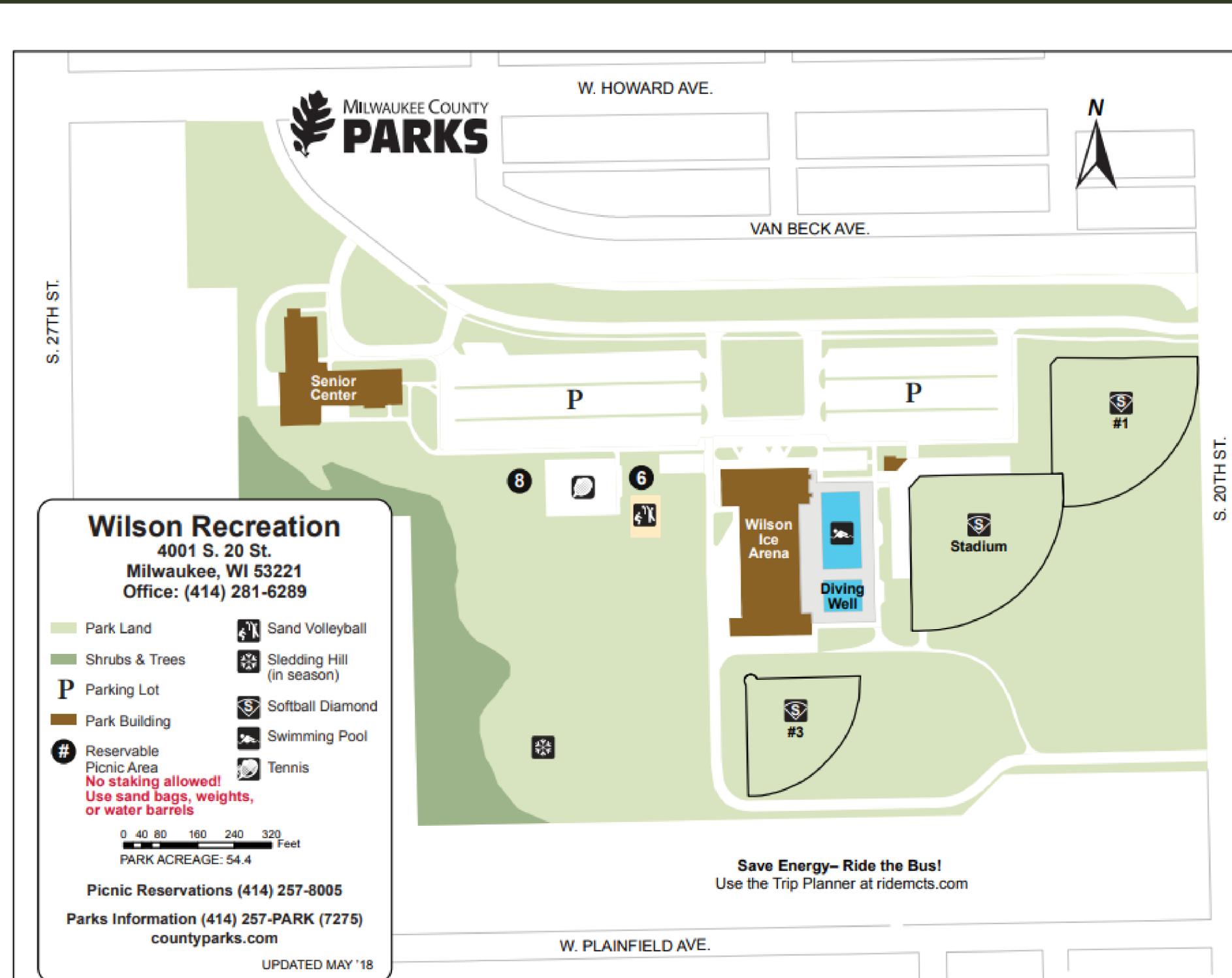
Wilson Park

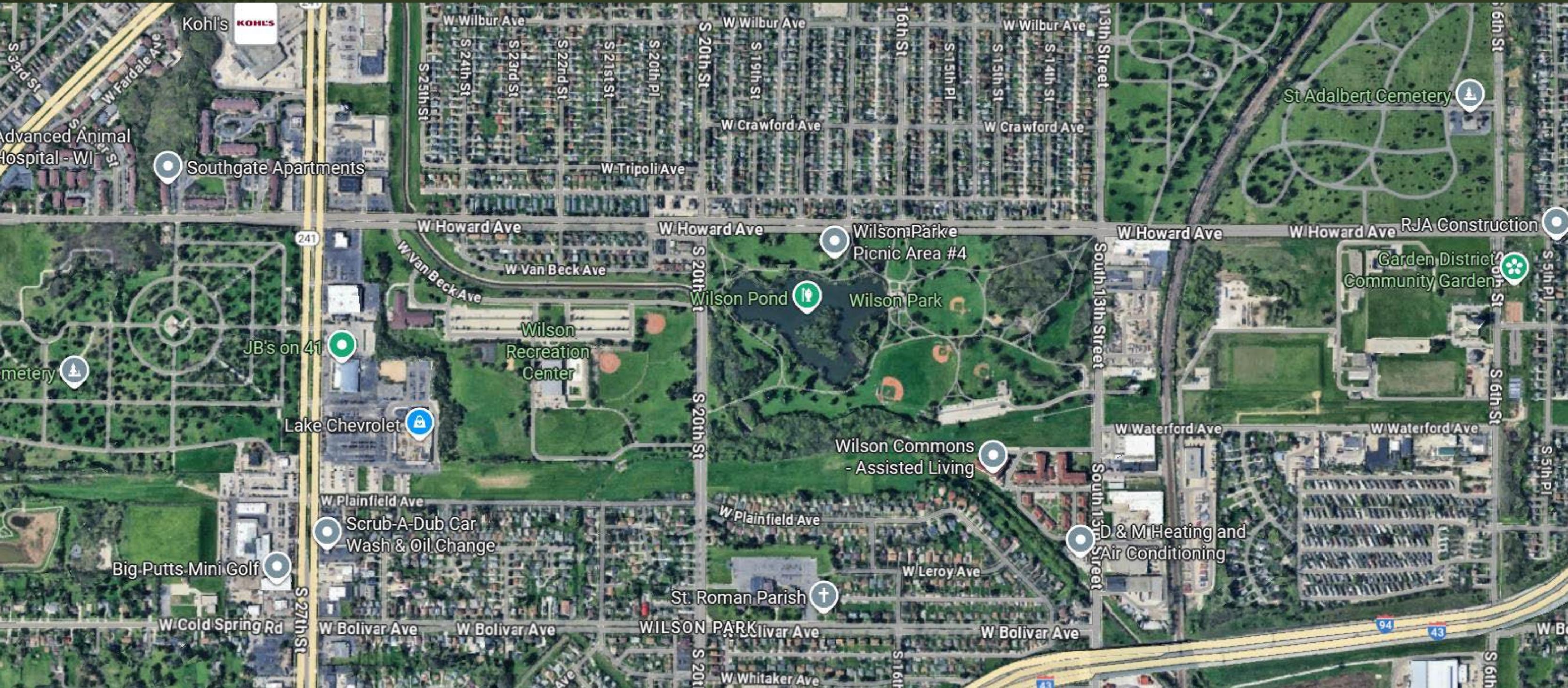
- Large regional park
- Wilson Park – S 13th ST to S 20th ST
 - Lagoon and creek
 - 4 ball diamonds (Wilson Youth Baseball)
 - 6 picnic areas
 - Woods, greenspace



Wilson Park

- Wilson Recreation – S 20th ST to Senior Center
 - Wilson Ice arena
 - Outdoor pool
 - Senior Center
 - 2 ball diamonds
 - 2 picnic areas
 - Tennis, sand volleyball, sledding hill





Kohl's

Southgate Apartments

St Adalbert Cemetery

Wilson Park
Picnic Area #4

Garden District
Community Garden

Wilson
Recreation
Center

Wilson Commons
- Assisted Living

JB's on 41

Lake Chevrolet

St. Roman Parish

D & M Heating and
Air Conditioning

Big Putts Mini Golf

WILSON PARK

94
43

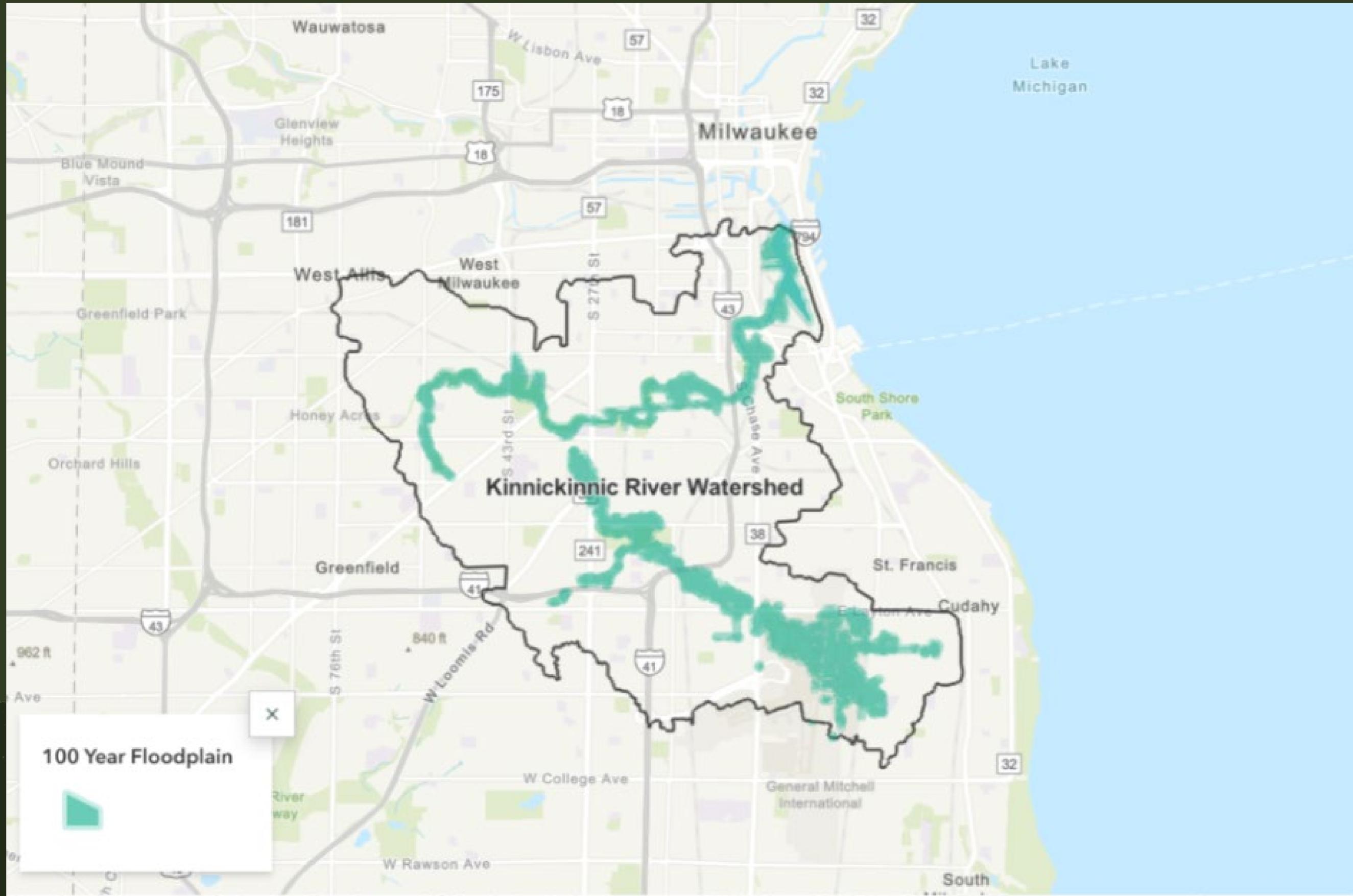
KK River Flooding

- The Kinnickinnic River Watershed covers 25 square miles, much of which travels through Milwaukee County parkland
- Nearly 50 percent of the surfaces within this watershed are impervious, such as streets, parking lots, and building rooftops, which prevents rain and melting snow from naturally being absorbed back into the soil
- During storm events, water flows quickly off these surfaces and overwhelms the river, which drastically increases the risk of flooding



The Kinnickinnic River flash flood water flow rushing to Lake Michigan on Sunday, August 10, 2025, and under pass of the S. 6 St. and W. Cleveland Ave. bridge flooded. Video clip by courtesy of Ilda Martinez, posted by Hispanic News Network U.S.A.



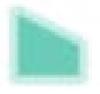


100 Year Floodplain





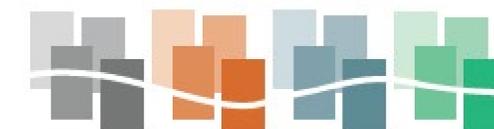
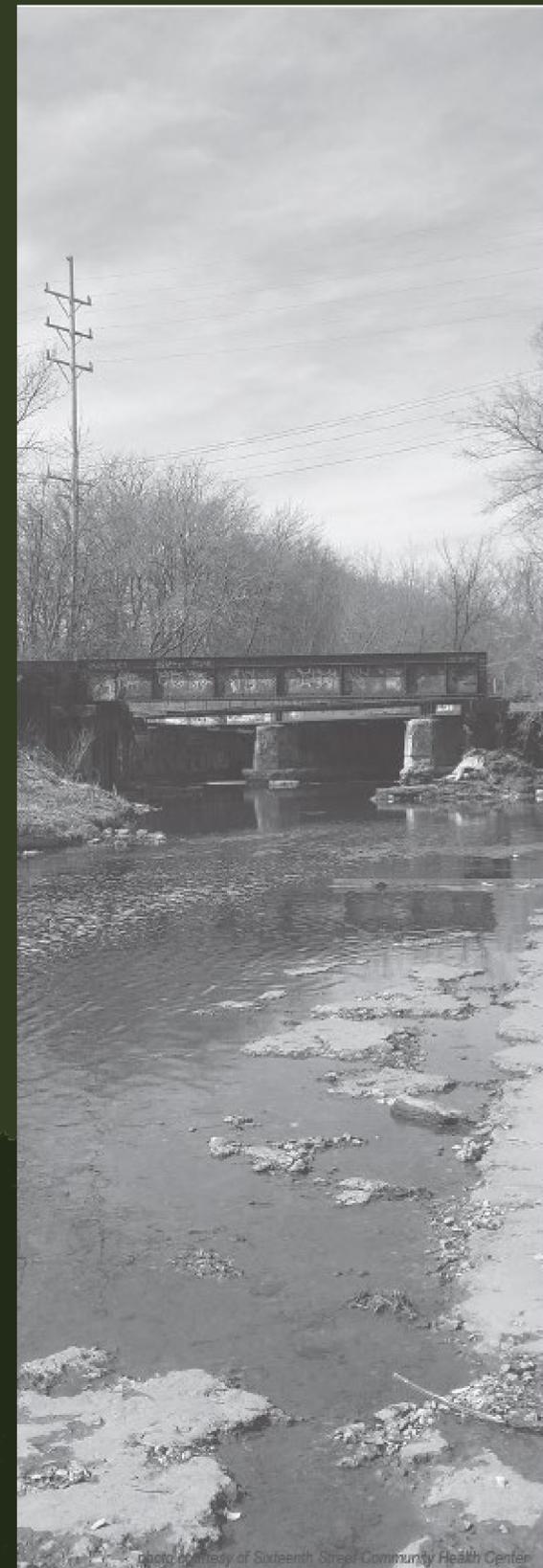
100 Year Floodplain



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MMSD

- MMSD has the responsibility to address flood management and to make improvements to stormwater infrastructure in the region
- Wilson Park Creek is a tributary to the KK River
- 2017 – MMSD completes KK River Watershed Flood Management Plan
 - Remove concrete channel within Wilson Park Creek
 - Add flood storage capacity to Wilson Park Lagoon



KINNICKINNIC RIVER WATERSHED FLOOD MANAGEMENT PLAN

FINAL REPORT

Prepared for
MILWAUKEE METROPOLITAN SEWERAGE DISTRICT

Prepared by
GRAEF
Hey and Associates, Inc.
CDM Smith

MAY 4, 2017



Projects Required to Reduce Flood Risk







The KK River watershed is fully developed. Open space opportunities are limited to parkland and cemeteries.



MMSD would need to purchase and remove over 400 homes to obtain the same flood storage area proposed for Wilson Park.



Flood Management Project

- The Project will begin with a planning process
 - Build upon the 2017 watershed plan to make specific recommendations to manage stormwater within the park
 - Collaborative effort between MMSD and Parks that incorporates community engagement
- Additional flood storage will be needed within Wilson Park and Wilson Recreation
 - Increase capacity to hold stormwater in the lagoon through dredging, widening, increasing depth, and other means
 - Create new stormwater retention areas within the park
- Plan will identify how to replace impacted park assets

Impacts to Park land

- Flood storage may require replacement or removal of ball diamonds, picnic areas and other Parks infrastructure and impacts to the pavilion
- Project has the ability to fund the replacement of these park assets
- In Jackson and Pulaski-Milwaukee Parks, the replacement of similar assets results in an improved condition through new construction











Agreement

- The Parties will engage in a Comprehensive Planning process for Wilson Park. This process will produce a plan that identifies all flood storage and flood mitigation work needed within the KK River corridor with a particular focus on impacts to parkland, infrastructure, natural areas, and recreational assets.
- The plan will be informed by public engagement, managed in collaboration between County Parks and MMSD.
- MMSD will pay for the replacement of all impacted parkland and assets within the flood management project.



Agreement

- MMSD will manage the construction of improvements within Wilson Park. During the construction period, which could last up to 6 years, MMSD will maintain the parkland within the impacted areas.
- Access to the Wilson Ice Arena and Wilson Park Senior Center will be maintained throughout the construction process.
- Any impacts to trees will be mitigated by MMSD making a contribution to the tree fund.
- County Parks will grant easements for long-term maintenance of flood management areas to MMSD and allow construction through the Right of Entry permit process.



Questions?



Thank You!