

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Inter-Office Communication

Date: August 18, 2023
To: Marcelia Nicholson, Chairwoman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors
From: Guy Smith, Executive Director, Milwaukee County Parks
Subject: Permission to apply for and accept TAP Grant
File Type: Action Report

REQUEST

The Executive Director of the Department of Parks, Recreation and Culture is seeking authorization to submit to the grant programs for Transportation Alternatives Program, and, if applicable, to accept a related grant award.

POLICY

State statute provides that the County Board may accept donations and grants for any public governmental purpose within the powers of the county.

Wisconsin State Statutes:	59.52 (19)
Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances:	
Specific Adopted Budget:	
Specific Adopted Budget Amendment:	
Specific Adopted Capital Project:	

BACKGROUND

The Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) is a legislative program administered by the State of Wisconsin's Department of Transportation that was authorized in Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (or "FAST Act"), the federal transportation act that was signed into law on December 4, 2015. TAP projects within the jurisdiction of a Transportation Management Area (TMA) are selected at the regional level by TMAs, which are metropolitan planning organizations with a population over 200,000. Milwaukee County Parks has had a successful experience utilizing TAP grants to address the popular Oak Leaf Trail system, one of the most popular transportation alternatives to vehicular travel in our region.

There are two Oak Leaf Trail bridges near the eastern end of Lincoln Park that span across Highway I-43 and Port Washington Road north of Hampton Avenue. These bridges are part of the former Union Pacific Railroad Corridor and are highly utilized trail bridges along the Oak Leaf Trail, with asset IDs 652.PED.1246 (B-40-0051) and 652.PED.1245 (B-40-0994). These bridges are routinely inspected by Milwaukee County DOT and/or their consultant. These bridges were built in 1936 (652.PED.1245)

and 1962 (652.PED.1246) and have several maintenance needs and corrective actions recommended. In 2021, bridge 652.PED.1246 sustained damage to lateral bracing when it was hit by a vehicle's cargo. In Fall 2022, bridge 652.PED.1246 required immediate repair work at the abutments due to the reconstruction of Highway I-43. Additional repairs are needed at both abutments and throughout the structure.

Milwaukee County Parks intends to request funding for the full replacement of these bridges to a standard that provides additional vertical clearance, sustainable materials, and potentially the inclusion of signage over the I43 corridor.

Related File No's:	21-614
Associated File No's (Including Transfer Packets):	
Previous Action Date(s):	8/9/2021

ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN

This request aligns to the strategic plan by enhancing the county's fiscal health and sustainability. Parks is looking to be as efficient and creative as possible to fund improvements to existing infrastructure.

FISCAL EFFECT

The TAP awards are typically granted for 80% of the project cost, with the remaining 20% necessitating local match. Based on a 2023 cost estimate, the funding breakdown would be:

Planning	\$331,730
<u>Construction</u>	<u>\$2,418,000</u>
	\$2,749,730

80% Potential TAP award = \$2,199,784;

20% Local Match = \$549,946

TERMS

Fall 2023 TAP applications will be reviewed and awarded by April of 2024. WisDOT is soliciting projects in calendar year 2023 for SFY 2024-2028 projects.


VIRTUAL MEETING INVITES

Sarah.Toomsen@milwaukeecountywi.gov

PREPARED BY:

Sarah Toomsen, Manager of Planning & Development, Milwaukee County Parks

APPROVED BY:

Guy Smith, Executive Director Milwaukee County Parks 

ATTACHMENTS:

- Resolution
- Fiscal Note
- Project Area Photos

CC:

David Crowley, County Executive
Mary Jo Meyers, Chief of Staff, County Executive's Office
Sheldon Wasserman, Supervisor District 3, PC Chair
Steven Shea, Supervisor District 8, PC Vice Chair
Felesia Martin, Supervisor District 7, PC Member
Juan Miguel Martinez, Supervisor District 12, PC Member
Steve Taylor, Supervisor District 17, PC 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 Smith, Committee Coordinator, Office of the County Clerk
Ciara Miller, Research & Policy Analyst, Office of the Comptroller
Anthony Rux, Budget & Management Analyst, DAS-PSB