



CHRIS ABELE, MILWAUKEE COUNTY EXECUTIVE
JOHN DARGLE, JR., DIRECTOR OF PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE

Date: June 26, 2017
To: Jason Haas, Chair, Parks, Energy and Environment Committee
From: John Dargle, Jr., CPRP, Director, Milwaukee County Parks
Subject: **Fund Transfer Request to add United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) grant funding to the South Shore Improvement Phase 2 Project (INFORMATION)**

ISSUE

Informational report on the Fund Transfer Request to recognize EPA grant funding for the addition of green infrastructure (GI) and storm water best management practice (BMP) features such as the installation of bio swales and storm water trees to the reconstruction of the South Shore Park waterfront area parking lot.

BACKGROUND

Milwaukee County Parks and the Department of Administrative Services request a fund transfer to add expenditure authority to Capital Project WP298 – South Shore Improvements Phase 2. Permission to apply for the grant was authorized as part of County Board File 17-221.

Three issues limit the full utilization and enjoyment of the waterfront areas of the park including poor water quality, aging and deteriorated facilities, and outdated facility design. Parks redevelopment plan addresses all three issues in an integrated manner. This EPA grant is focused on the water quality issue.

The 1.7-acre beach regularly ranks among the worst in the nation in water quality testing and closures. In 2015 water quality sampling at the beach, 65% of the samples collected exceeded recreational water quality standards for E. coli. Parks is constructing GI and storm water BMP features within the overall waterfront redevelopment project. The goal is to improve the quality of the storm water discharged to the lake and to, thereby, help reduce beach closings.

The four-acre South Shore Park waterfront area had a pronounced slope toward Lake Michigan, and no functioning structures to hold, filter, or treat storm water/meltwater runoff from the site. Precipitation onto the paved portions of the site sheet drained



directly to the lake and, along with it, the various chemicals, substances, animal waste and debris that typically accumulate on the pavement surface during dry conditions. The site is being regraded to eliminate direct sheet run-off to the lake and to re-direct precipitation to GI features that will slow, capture and treat polluted run-off.

The County has been awarded \$175,000 in EPA grant funding that will provide additional expenditure authority to offset the costs for the GI and best storm water BMP elements incorporated into the project.

The parking lot and waterfront project at South Shore Park has been funded at almost \$3.7M as follows:

2015 County Appropriation	\$1,606,209
2016 County Capital Budget Appropriation	\$1,200,000
Wisconsin Waterways Commission Grant	\$800,000
MMSD Green Infrastructure Grant	\$100,000

A portion of the existing funding is providing the 50% match required by the grant. There are no new County funds being added to this project as part of the fund transfer request. Any surplus County funding resulting from the addition of this grant to the project will be lapsed at year end or re-allocated to other projects

RECOMMENDATION

No action requested. Informational item unless further action required.

Prepared by: Jill Organ, Chief of Planning and Development

Approved by:


John Dargle, Jr., CPRP, Director

Copy:

- Chris Abele, County Executive
- Raisa Koltun, Chief of Staff, County Executive's Office
- Theodore Lipscomb, Sr., Chairman, County Board of Supervisors
- Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, County Board of Supervisors
- Marcelia Nicholson, Vice-Chair, Parks, Energy & Environment Committee
- Marina Dimitrijevic, Supervisor, District 4
- Allyson Smith, Committee Coordinator, Office of the County Clerk
- Jessica Janz-McKnight, Research & Policy Analyst, Office of the Comptroller
- Jeremy Lucas, Fiscal Mgt. Analyst, Admin & Fiscal Affairs/DAS