

**COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION**

DATE: January 8, 2016

TO: Theodore Lipscomb, Chairman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Charles Wikenhauser, Director, Zoological Department

SUBJECT: **Planning and Implementing Clean Energy Investments in Wisconsin Communities Grant Funding.**

REQUEST

The Zoo Director is requesting retroactive authorization to apply for and accept *Planning and Implementing Clean Energy Investments in Wisconsin Communities* grant funding from the Wisconsin State Energy Office (SEO) in the amount of \$34,000.

BACKGROUND

On October 28, 2015, the Wisconsin State Energy Office issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) seeking applications for its *Planning and Implementing Clean Energy Investments in Wisconsin Communities* grant. The grant was open to local governments in Wisconsin that are interested in reducing energy use in their operations.

Applications for the grant were due less than one month after the RFP was issued. To meet this tight schedule, the Milwaukee County Zoo, with the help and support of the County's Sustainability Director, Gordie Bennett, submitted an application for the grant prior to approval from the County Board of Supervisors. On December 1, 2015, the SEO informed the Zoo that its grant application has been approved for funding.

The SEO grant funding will provide the Zoo with \$34,000 to develop an energy reduction plan for its operations. Milwaukee County's share would be \$10,300, making the total funding for the plan equal to \$44,300. Funding for the County's share will be provided by the Office of Sustainability through \$4,300 in-kind labor as well as \$6,000 from 2016 operating funds that were dedicated for sundry services.

To accept the grant funding, the Zoo must enter a contract/grant agreement with the SEO. In addition, the Zoo must agree to spend the allocated funds by June 15, 2016.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Milwaukee County Zoo be retroactively authorized to apply for and accept *Planning and Implementing Clean Energy Investments in Wisconsin Communities* grant funding. It is also recommended that the Director of Performance,

Strategy and Budget be authorized to process a fund transfer to recognize the grant revenue and establish expenditure authority of \$40,000.



Charles Wikenhauser, Director, Zoological Department

Cc: Chris Abele, County Executive
Raisa Koltun, Chief of Staff, County Executive's Office
Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, County Board
Sup. Gerry Broderick, Chairman, Parks, Energy & Environment Committee
Sup. Khalif Rainey, Vice-Chair, Parks, Energy & Environment Committee
Steven Kreklow, Director of Performance, Strategy & Budget, DAS
Jeremy Lucas, Fiscal Mgt. Analyst, Admin & Fiscal Affairs/DAS
Gordie Bennett, Sustainability Director, DAS-Facilities Management
Jessica Janz-McKnight, Research and Policy Analyst, Office of the Comptroller
Janelle Jensen, Committee Clerk, Office of the County Clerk
Vera Westphal, Deputy Zoo Director (Administration/Finance)
Karl Hackbarth, Operations Coordinator