



CITY OF WAUWATOSA

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May 12, 2017

VIA EMAIL

Chris Abele
Milwaukee County Executive
Milwaukee County Courthouse
901 N. 9th Street, Room 306
Milwaukee, WI 53233

Theodore Lipscomb, Sr.
Milwaukee County Board Chair
Milwaukee County Courthouse
901 N. 9th Street, Room 201
Milwaukee, WI 53233

Michael Hahn
Executive Director
Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission
W239 N1812 Rockwood Drive
P.O. Box 1607
Waukesha, WI 53187-1607

Dear Executive Abele, Chairman Lipscomb, and Executive Director Hahn:

As you know, the planning for a possible Wauwatosa Life Sciences District has been a collaborative effort by the Milwaukee Regional Medical Center (MRMC), Milwaukee County, and the City of Wauwatosa. The Life Sciences District planning area are the four quadrants surrounding the intersection of I-41/US 45 and Watertown Plank Road in Wauwatosa, encompassing the MRMC, Milwaukee County Research Park and UW-Milwaukee Innovation Campus, and other entities. It is metropolitan Milwaukee's hub for health care, biosciences and biomedical engineering. The planning firms of Sasaki Associates of Boston, Nelson/Nygaard Consulting Associates of San Francisco and Graef Inc. of Milwaukee were retained to create a 25-30 year plan for growth of that hub into a Life Sciences District like medical and research campuses elsewhere around the country.

After three (3) open houses, two (2) Wauwatosa Common Council Committee of the Whole meetings, online town hall engagement, and numerous stakeholder meetings, the Wauwatosa Community Affairs Committee discussed and passed the following motions on Tuesday, May 9, 2017, pertaining to the Wauwatosa Life Sciences District master planning effort:

It was moved by Ald. Berdan, seconded by Ald. Pantuso to hold the Life Sciences District Master Plan until such time as the SEWRPC report is received and until such time as Milwaukee County brings forth their zoning proposal and/or their conclusion of exploration of impediments to development in the UWM Innovation Campus and the Research Park. Ayes: 7

It was moved by Ald. Wilke, seconded by Ald. Hanson to amend the motion to include until such time Milwaukee County preserve the natural areas of land commonly known as County Grounds Park, Sanctuary Woods, and DNR Forest land north and west of Swan Boulevard is permanently preserved in perpetuity. Ayes: 7

To clarify, the following needs to take place:

To the County:

1. Complete Certified Survey Map (CSM) and rezoning applications for the new parcels to be created and approved.
2. Explore and report on impediments to development at UWM Innovation Campus and Milwaukee County Research Park.
3. Place permanent preservation protections on County Grounds Park (County Board.)
4. Place permanent preservation protections on "Sanctuary Woods" area. (County Executive and the ICC panel, unless the zoning changes it to Parks or Conservancy, in which case permanent protections are in the hands of the County Board.)
5. Make a request to the State/DNR to place permanent non-development protections on the State/DNR-owned land designated for the use and development of the Forest Exploration Center.

To Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC):

1. Finish the environmental inventory and evaluation and provide report. (The City requested an inventory and evaluation and it is underway.)

If and when these items are obtained, the City of Wauwatosa would continue with the planning process and the Life Sciences District Master Plan would return to the Community Affairs Committee for consideration.

In closing, Wauwatosa staff is more than happy to meet with you and/or your staff to discuss the above action in further detail and answer any questions you may have regarding next steps.

Sincerely,



Paulette Enders
Development Director

Cc: Mayor Kathleen Ehley
James Archambo, Administrator
Wauwatosa Common Council Members
James Schmitt, Milwaukee County Supervisor
James Tarantino, Milwaukee County Economic Development Director
Wendy McCown, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Bureau of Forestry Business Services Director