

From the Executive Director of Parks requesting authorization to retroactively submit and accept a Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant in the amount of \$752,783 to support the redesign and construction of a splash pad at Washington Park Pool, by recommending adoption of the following:

A REVISED RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Culture has applied for funding through the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant program to support the redesign and construction of a new splash pad (the Project) at the existing Washington Park pool site; and

WHEREAS, retroactive authorization is requested to comply with the LWCF application deadline of May 1, 2026, and to allow Milwaukee County (the County) to apply for and accept LWCF grant program funding; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Project advances recommendations identified in the 2025 DPRC Aquatics Study (the Study), which evaluated the County's aquatic facilities and long-term capital planning needs; and

WHEREAS, the Study found that splash pads provide a modern, low-maintenance aquatic amenity that reduces staffing requirements compared to traditional pools and wading pools, while improving accessibility and expanding opportunities for heat relief and family recreation; and

WHEREAS, the Study further identified strong public support for continued investment in aquatic facilities and recreational cooling amenities across County parks; and

WHEREAS, DPRC has requested \$752,783 in LWCF grant program funding, which may reimburse up to 50 percent of eligible Project costs; and

WHEREAS, the Milwaukee Parks Foundation will provide the required matching funds for the Project in the amount of \$752,783; and

WHEREAS, LWCF grant program funds will be reimbursed to the County upon completion of eligible Project activities and submission of the required documentation to the DNR; and

WHEREAS, if awarded, LWCF-funded projects are expected to be completed by 2030; and

WHEREAS, future operation and maintenance costs associated with the Project will be absorbed within the DPRC operating budget; and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Finance, at its meeting of May 21, 2026, recommended adoption of File No. 26-387 (vote 7-0); and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Parks and Culture, at its meeting of May 26, 2026, recommended adoption of File No. 26-387 (vote 6-0); now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes and approves the retroactive submission of an application for, and acceptance of, State of Wisconsin (the State) Department of Natural Resources Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant funding, in the amount of \$752,783, for the Washington Park splash pad project (the Project); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Culture (DPRC) is authorized through the Milwaukee Parks Foundation, pursuant to adopted File No. 22-785, to utilize matching funds in the amount of \$752,783, for the required non-Federal share of the Project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, retroactive authorization is hereby granted for actions taken to meet the LWCF grant application timelines; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, DPRC and the Office of the Comptroller are authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to apply for, accept, and administer the LWCF grant upon award, in accordance with State and Milwaukee County requirements.

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