

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Inter-Office Communication

Date: February 18, 2022

To: Marcelia Nicholson, Chairwoman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

From: Guy Smith, Executive Director, Milwaukee County Parks

Subject: From the Executive Director of Milwaukee County Parks, requesting authorization to grant a 20-year conservation easement to the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District for the grant-funded green infrastructure project located at McKinley Marina, just north of downtown on the lakefront

File Type: Action Report

REQUEST

Milwaukee County Parks requests authorization to grant a 20-Year conservation easement to the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) for the green infrastructure at McKinley Marina located at 1700 North Lincoln Memorial Drive which is located immediately north of downtown Milwaukee towards the lakefront. It is further requested that the County Executive and County Clerk be authorized to execute any required documents.

POLICY

§ 59.17(2)(b)3., Wis. Stats., states that the “county board may continue to exercise the authority under s. 59.52(6) with regard to land that is zoned as a park...”. In the law of property, authority over “land” includes authority over all rights appurtenant to the land.

Wisconsin State Statutes:	§ 59.17(2)(b)(3)
Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances:	
Specific Adopted Budget:	
Specific Adopted Budget Amendment:	
Specific Adopted Capital Project:	

BACKGROUND

In 2018, in File No. 18-190, Milwaukee County Parks requested and was granted authorization by the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors to apply for certain grants for the redevelopment of the McKinley Marina, one of which was the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District 2018 Green Infrastructure Partnership Program grant.

MMSD awarded the grant to Milwaukee County Parks because the McKinley Marina, which is located along the Lake Michigan shoreline just north of downtown Milwaukee falls within the

service area boundary of Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) in addition to the Milwaukee Estuary Area of Concern (AOC). The McKinley Marina north parking lot had not been replaced since 1987 and was in very poor condition for some time, not serving public use needs, and with minimal stormwater management capabilities.

The goal of the project was to redesign and reconstruct the marina parking lot so that it was fully functional and aesthetically appealing and included an integrated system of stormwater green infrastructure (GI). The grant proposal for this project was focused on the incorporation of stormwater GI into the design of the phase 1 parking areas to increase the volume of stormwater runoff captured, treated, and stored by GI, and to reduce the volume of untreated runoff draining directly to Lake Michigan. The proposed project specifically targets the capture of the first 0.5-inches of every storm event and will provide approximately 200,000 gallons of stormwater storage per storm, resulting in a significant reduction in sediment-laden stormwater discharged to Lake Michigan. The ultimate project goal is to improve near-shore Lake Michigan water quality for a healthier plant and wildlife ecosystem, and enhanced water-based recreational opportunities.

As part of the grant requirements, MMSD requires that the green infrastructure be protected and maintained by the landowner through a limited conservation easement granted in favor of MMSD.

Related File No's:	18-190
Associated File No's (Including Transfer Packets):	
Previous Action Date(s):	

ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Describe how the item aligns to the objectives in the [strategic plan](#):

2C: Long-term investment in improving the water quality downstream of the runoff from the McKinley Parking Lot enhances the quality of most widely used beach area in Milwaukee County.

FISCAL EFFECT

No fiscal impact. Staff time required to ensure compliance with the conservation easement.

TERMS

- Twenty year limited term conservation easement to keep, preserve, and maintain the green infrastructure.
- Landowner is solely responsible for operation, maintenance, and evaluating performance.
- MMSD has the right to enter the property to inspect and monitor for compliance.

- MMSD has the right to prevent any inconsistent uses.

VIRTUAL MEETING INVITES

Erica Goblet, Contracts Manager, Milwaukee County Parks

PREPARED BY:

Erica Goblet, Contracts Manager, Milwaukee County Parks

APPROVED BY:

Guy Smith, Parks Executive Director



ATTACHMENTS:

- Attachment 1 – Resolution
- Attachment 2 – Fiscal Note
- Attachment 3 – Draft Easement

cc: Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors
Janelle M. Jensen, Legislative Services Division Manager, Office of the County Clerk
David Crowley, County Executive
Mary Jo Meyers, Chief of Staff, County Executive's Office
Sheldon Wasserman, Parks, Energy & Environment Chair, Supervisor District 3
Steven Shea, Parks, Energy & Environment Committee Vice-Chair, Supervisor District 8
Felesia Martin, Parks, Energy & Environment Committee Member, Supervisor District 7
Sylvia Ortiz-Velez, Parks, Energy & Environment Committee Member, Supervisor District 12
Liz Sumner, Parks, Energy & Environment Committee Member, Supervisor District 1
Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, County Board
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
Kelsey Evans, Committee Coordinator, Office of the County Clerk
Ciara Miller, Research & Policy Analyst, Office of the Comptroller
Anthony Rux, Budget & Management Analyst, DAS-PSB