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(ITEM ) From the Director of Economic Development, Department of Administrative Services, requesting authorization to adopt the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Report for Southeastern Wisconsin as prepared by the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, by recommending adoption of the following:

**A RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the Milwaukee 7, the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC), and the Southeast Wisconsin Regional Economic Partnership worked together in 2014 and 2015 to develop a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the Southeastern Wisconsin Region (the Region), which includes the counties of Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Walworth, Washington, and Waukesha; and

WHEREAS, the CEDS recommends that economic development efforts focus on strengthening the Region’s economy through business exports, workforce development, innovation and entrepreneurship, economic place-making, infrastructure improvements, and enhanced public-private and interagency cooperation; identifies key cluster industries believed to have the best potential for economic growth, expansion, and attraction in Southeastern Wisconsin; and includes an action plan and proposed economic development projects in the Region; and

WHEREAS, in addition to setting forth a strategy for economic growth in the Region, the CEDS is intended to meet the requirements of the United States Department of Commerce - Economic Development Administration (EDA) for such work, thereby strengthening efforts to secure federal funding for projects in the seven-county region that have a particular focus and impact on economic development, particularly projects that will benefit economically distressed areas; and

WHEREAS, following adoption of the CEDS by the seven County Boards in the region, SEWRPC would request designation of the region as an Economic Development District by the EDA; and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Economic and Community Development, at its meeting of September 14, 2015, recommended adoption of the Director’s request (vote 5-0); now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors (County Board) supports and hereby adopts the regional economic development strategy set forth in the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the Southeastern Wisconsin Region (the Region) for the period 2015 through 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County Board supports the formation of an

47 Economic Development District for the Region by the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional  
48 Planning Commission (SEWRPC), with assistance to be provided by the Milwaukee 7  
49 and Southeast Wisconsin Regional Economic Partnership, which would align local,  
50 county, and regional economic development efforts to carry out the recommendations of  
51 the CEDS; and

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53 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Clerk shall transmit a  
54 certified copy of this resolution to SEWRPC.

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