

**COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE  
INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION**

DATE: January 8, 2016

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

FROM: Charles Wikenhauser, Director, Zoological Gardens

SUBJECT: **Trust Fund Ordinance Amendments**

I request that you refer this matter to the appropriate committee(s) for review of proposed ordinance amendments related to the Zoo's trust funds. The Comptroller's Office during its annual review informed Zoo staff that the ordinances related to the Zoo's trust funds do not adequately address current Zoo operations and revenue sources. The ordinances address the longstanding Railroad and Specimen Trust Funds and the uses of revenue from the operation of the train and the zoomobiles. The Zoo continues to raise funds to support the purposes of both of these trusts. However, in order to support these trust funds and to benefit and/or improve the Zoo more broadly, the Zoo now raises funds in a variety of other ways (e.g., revenue from Giraffe feedings and other unrestricted donations).

The attached ordinance amendments do not change the Railroad or Specimen Trust funds nor do they change the restrictions and order of priorities that have been in place on the uses of the trust funds since their establishment. However, ordinance changes are needed to specify that other sources of revenue may be deposited into these funds and to specify that these funds, consistent with the established, existing order of use priorities, may also be used to support other expenses for the benefit or improvement of the Zoo and to support the Zoo's mission (e.g., conservation programs and staff education).

The Zoo is requesting adoption of the attached ordinance changes that were drafted by Corporation Counsel and reviewed by the Audit Department.

  
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Charles Wikenhauser,  
Director, Zoological Gardens

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  
Jessica Janz-McKnight, Research and Policy Analyst, Office of the Comptroller  
Allyson Smith, Committee Clerk, Office of the County Clerk  
Vera Westphal, Deputy Zoo Director (Administration/Finance)