

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Inter-Office Communication

Date: August 12, 2022

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

From: Calli Berg, Director, Department of Administrative Services, Economic Development Division

Subject: Informational Report regarding the development of a monument by the Woody Williams Foundation and to be located on the North Tract of the Lakefront Cultural Center Condominium

File Type: Informational Report

REQUEST

Woody Williams Foundation (the “Foundation”) is seeking approval to move forward with the development of a monument to honor Gold Star Families. This title is reserved for families of military members who have died in the line of duty. This development is at no cost to the County.

POLICY

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| Wisconsin State Statutes: | 45.75 |
| Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances: | 56.10 |

BACKGROUND

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| Related File No's: | 16-229 – Action Report authorizing transfer of the Kahler Building, the 2015 East Addition, portions of the Saarinen Building, and the O'Donnell Park parking structure improvements (but not the underlying land on any of them) to the Milwaukee Art Museum; and authorizing transfer of portions of the Saarinen Building (but not the land) to Milwaukee County War Memorial, Inc. |
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The County's consent is required through the existing condominium documents that created the Lakefront Cultural Center Condominium. The condominium is comprised of three unit owners. Unit 1 being under the ownership of Milwaukee County; Unit 2 being under the ownership of Milwaukee Art Museum, Inc. (“MAM”); and Unit 3 being under the ownership of Milwaukee County War Memorial, Inc. (“WMC”).

Declaration Section 10(c) provides that WMC may use its unit for lawful purposes consistent with furthering its mission, including “exhibitions for the benefit of the public which honor the memory of veterans, and any other use consistent with the Public Trust Doctrine.”

Further, pursuant to Declaration Section 17, Milwaukee County’s and MAM’s consents are required prior to any alterations of the North Tract, even though the North Tract is part of the WMC Unit 3. Based on adjacencies to other County facilities, the following conditions would apply to granting the Foundation’s request:

- Submittal of preliminary plans for informational purposes followed by 90% plans for grading and drainage to Milwaukee County Architecture, Engineering & Environmental Services for its review and approval (as development may affect the Shoreline Area, including, without limitation, the Sea Wall, the Lake Walk, the flood control structures, heat tracing system and drainage outfalls);
- Securing any right of entry permits from Milwaukee County Parks necessary to connect to the Oak Leaf Trail or any other uses occurring north of the north line of the North Tract;
- Adhering to any requirement of the Public Trust Doctrine;
- Compliance and non-interference with any existing easements, including but not limited to the Limited Term Conservation Easement recorded as Document No. 11193381;
- Receipt of approvals from the other condominium Unit Owners, and all other approvals required by law;
- Meeting any other conditions as required by the Declaration.

ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN

The proposed monument would serve to honor not only Gold Star Families but also all those who served and sacrificed. This aligns with the County’s strategic plan to create and nurture those in need of community, reflection, and comfort.

FISCAL EFFECT

This request has no direct County fiscal impact.

RECOMMENDATION

The Director of the Department of Administrative Services – Economic Development Division respectfully requests that this informational report be received and placed on file.

VIRTUAL MEETING INVITES

Daniel Buttery (dbuttery@warmemorialcenter.org)

Dale Egan (dale.egan@woodywilliams.org)

PREPARED BY:

Adam Stehly, Project Manager, DAS-ED

SUBMITTED BY:

Calli Berg

Calli Berg
Economic Development Director

ATTACHMENTS:

Various Dignitary Support Resolutions, Documents, and Letters (incl. WMC Board Resolution)
Woody Williams Foundation Special Report 2022
MAM Acknowledgement
Milwaukee Shoreline Vision Plan 2017

cc: Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors
Janelle M. Jensen, Legislative Services Division Manager, Office of the County Clerk