

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Inter-Office Communication

Date: May 16, 2024

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

From: Guy Smith, Executive Parks Director for Milwaukee County Parks

Subject: Authorization to Apply for Grant with County Match for Improvements to Tiefenthaler Park

File Type: Action Report

REQUEST

The Executive Director of Milwaukee County Parks seeking authorization to submit to the grant programs for the Land and Water Conservation Funding Program of up to \$459,000, and, if applicable, to accept a related grant award for recreational improvements to Tiefenthaler Park.

POLICY

Milwaukee County Ordinance 56.06 requires County Board approval for application for a federal, state or private grants of assistance that requires a County match.

Wisconsin State Statutes:	
Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances:	Chapter 56
Specific Adopted Budget:	
Specific Adopted Budget Amendment:	
Specific Adopted Capital Project:	

BACKGROUND

Milwaukee County Parks owns and maintains Tiefenthaler Park located at 2501 W Galena Street in Milwaukee, WI. Tiefenthaler Park spans 10.69 acres and is home to Kellogg PEAK Initiatives (PEAK) which serves more than 500 young people annually through nature activities, summer camps, leadership training and more. Since its founding in 2002, PEAK has served thousands of young individuals.

Tiefenthaler has been a focal point for reinvestment in recent years. Building upon the positive investments which include updates to the PEAK community center, installation of peace posts and upgrades to the basketball court, additional funds have been allocated for further improvements to the park such as converting the wading pool into a splash pad. The allocated funds include:

- \$100,000 from 2024 Adopted Budget Amendment 42

- \$200,000 grant from Milwaukee Parks Foundation
- \$48,800 from the Greater Milwaukee Foundation
- \$110,000 in ARPA funds for pathway repairs

Due to the significant investment in Tiefenthaler Park, Parks recognizes the opportunity to seek matching funds to further enhance the park’s improvements.

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) administers the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) program. Funds received by the DNR for this program are split between DNR projects and grants to local governments for outdoor recreation activities. Eligible projects include development of high-quality recreational amenities in local communities. The grant covers 50% of eligible project costs, and project applicants are required to provide matching funds equal or greater than the amount of the grant award.

Long-term obligations for grant recipients of LWCF include retaining legal control and oversight of the property, maintaining facilities on the property developed with the grant and ensuring the grant property or facility remains open to the public for outdoor recreational with reasonable restrictions as necessary. Tentative grant awards will be announced as early as September 2024 with grant contracts expected to be received anytime between November 2024-November 2025. The completion date for grant projects is June 30, 2027.

Milwaukee County Parks recommends applying for a match from the Land and Water Conservation Fund grant program in the amount up to \$459,000 for recreational enhancements to Tiefenthaler Park.

Related File No’s:	24-115, HRA22-91
Associated File No’s (Including Transfer Packets):	
Previous Action Date(s):	

ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN

This request aligns with the strategic plan by working to invest upstream to address root causes of health disparities, enhance the County’s fiscal health and sustainability, and dismantle barriers to diverse and inclusive communities.

FISCAL EFFECT

This request could increase capital funding by up to \$459,000 and will not increase the operating costs to maintain the park.

TERMS

There are no future obligations by any party in this agreement.

VIRTUAL MEETING INVITES

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PREPARED BY:

Jeremy Lucas, Director of Administration & Planning, Milwaukee County Parks

APPROVED BY:

Guy Smith, Executive Director Milwaukee County Parks



ATTACHMENTS:

Milwaukee Parks Foundation LOA

CC: David Crowley, County Executive
Mary Jo Meyers, Chief of Staff, County Executive's Office
Sheldon Wasserman, Committee on Parks & Culture Chairperson
Steve Taylor, Committee on Parks & Culture Vice Chairperson
Felesia Martin, Committee on Parks & Culture Member
Juan Miguel Martinez, Committee on Parks & Culture Member
Jack Eckblad, Committee on Parks & Culture Member
Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors
Janelle M. Jensen, Legislative Services Division Mgr, Office of the County Clerk
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
Allyson R. Smith, Committee Coordinator, Office of the County Clerk
Ciara Miller, Research & Policy Analyst, Office of the Comptroller
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