

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Inter-Office Communication

Date: November 12, 2021

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 execute a Permanent Gas Easement with WE Energies to install a gas main under the Root River south of Cleveland Avenue

File Type: Action Report

REQUEST

Authorization to execute a Permanent Gas Easement with WE Energies under the Root River south of Cleveland Avenue to improve gas service reliability by connecting two existing gas mains.

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

Milwaukee County Parks frequently coordinates with WE Energies for the purpose of utility services both to Parks facilities and across parkland. The current request from WE Energies is to install a gas main under the Root River south of Cleveland Avenue. The purpose is to connect two existing gas mains on the west and east sides of Root River Parkway to improve the reliability of gas services in the surrounding area. The proposed gas main would be installed using directional boring with open excavations on the east and west sides of the parkway.

Parks has reviewed this request and based on the size of the easement, the minimal impact to parkland, natural areas, and recreational activities, and the overall benefit to the community as it relates to improving system reliability for gas customers in the area, is recommending

approval of this easement. Using comparable land values, WE Energies is offering \$3,072 for the proposed easement rights.

New services are installed by WE Energies and their contractors, and permission for installation work is granted through the Parks Right-of-Entry permit process. Granting the permanent easement is necessary for the long-term operation of the utility on Park property and requires authorization from the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors and the County Executive.

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

ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN

This easement is related to improved reliability of gas service to county residents in the area and also helps Parks meet its revenue goals.

3B: Enhance the County's fiscal health and sustainability

3C: Dismantle barriers to diverse and inclusive communities

FISCAL EFFECT

Increase of revenues in the current budget year of \$3,072 to help meet revenue targets.

TERMS

The easement is permanent. One-time payment of \$3,072.


VIRTUAL MEETING INVITES

Erica Goblet, Contracts Manager, Milwaukee County Parks

PREPARED BY:

Erica Goblet, Contracts Manager

APPROVED BY:

Guy Smith, Parks Executive Director 

ATTACHMENTS:

Resolution

Fiscal Note

Easement

Aerial Map

cc: 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, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors
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
Janelle M. Jensen, Legislative Services Division Manager, Office of the County Clerk
Kelsey Evans, Committee Coordinator, Office of the County Clerk
Emily Peterson, Research & Policy Analyst, Office of the Comptroller
Anthony Rux, Budget & Management Analyst, DAS-PSB