

**COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE**  
Inter-Office Communication

Date: December 29, 2021

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

From: Guy Smith, Executive Director, Milwaukee County Parks

Subject: Retro-active TAHC Extension – James Tarantino

File Type: Action

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**REQUEST**

Milwaukee County Parks is requesting authorization for a TAHC extension and approval of back pay for this employee as the current TAHC expired on November 31, 2021.

**POLICY**

Wisconsin State Statutes:	
Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances:	17.085. – Temporary assignments
Specific Adopted Budget:	2021 and 2022

**BACKGROUND**

James Tarantino has been serving as interim Deputy Director – Parks since May of 2021. This role provides support and direction to Parks' senior leadership by helping define and execute Parks' strategy and policy in all areas of operations. Tarantino's leadership in this position has provided much needed support in navigating the challenging and complex issues related to the pandemic and its effects on Parks' operations and staff. As Parks prepares to formally begin recruitment for this critical role, we kindly request that Mr. Tarantino continue to serve as Interim until a permanent replacement is selected.

Parks' Executive Director recommends approval of the retroactive extension of James Tarantino's Temporary Assignment to a Higher Classification (TAHC) to the position of Deputy Director- Parks until May 1, 2022, or until the position is permanently filled, whichever occurs first; approval of the back pay for this employee since the current TAHC expired on November 31, 2021, is also kindly requested.

**ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

Milwaukee County Parks is a non-mandated service and provides services based on being

able to obtain more than 50% of the budget through direct revenues. The continuation of this TAHC supports Parks' strategic plans and objectives while promoting the County's fiscal health and sustainability.


**FISCAL EFFECT**

Funding for the position through the remainder of 2021 and for 2022 is available. Approval of the back pay for this employee since the current TAHC expired on November 31, 2021 is also kindly requested.

**PREPARED BY:**

Mira Hayes, HR Business Partner, Human Resources

**APPROVED BY:**

Guy Smith, Parks Executive Director 

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Resolution

Fiscal Note

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  
Janelle M. Jensen, Legislative Services Division Manager, 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  
Kelsey Evans, Committee Coordinator, Office of the County Clerk  
Ciara Miller, Research & Policy Analyst, Office of the Comptroller  
Anthony Rux, Budget & Management Analyst, DAS-PSB