

Parks, Energy and Environment Committee on 2022-06-14 9:00 AM - HYBRID MEETING

This meeting will be held in Room 203-R, and will be live-streamed on the County Legislative Information Center:

<https://milwaukeecounty.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

Meeting Time: 06-14-22 09:00

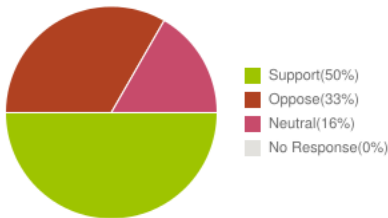
eComments Report

Meetings	Meeting Time	Agenda Items	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
Parks, Energy and Environment Committee on 2022-06-14 9:00 AM - HYBRID MEETING This meeting will be held in Room 203-R, and will be live-streamed on the County Legislative Information Center: https://milwaukeecounty.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx	06-14-22 09:00	19	6	3	2	1

Sentiments for All Meetings

The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

Overall Sentiment



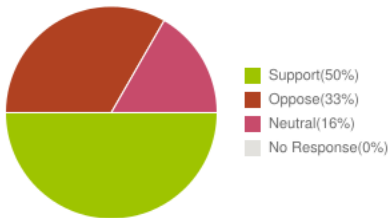
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06-14-22 09:00

Agenda Name	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
1 22-592 From the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Revenue Loss Recovery Subgroup requesting authorization of \$21,996,141 million in ARPA Funds for "Fiscal Health Challenge" project requests, which include one-time investments that provide long term cost savings, revenue enhancements, and/or operational efficiencies. (05/26/22 CB Meeting: Referred to the Committee on Parks, Energy, and Environment)	1	1	0	0
4 22-697 From the Office of Strategy, Budget, and Performance, DAS, and the Parks Department, providing an informational item on the status of the Mitchell Park Domes Project. (INFORMATIONAL ONLY UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE)	4	2	1	1
5 22-707 A resolution/ordinance amending Section 47.08 of the Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances related to the injury to, destruction, or removal of public property	1	0	1	0

Sentiments for All Agenda Items

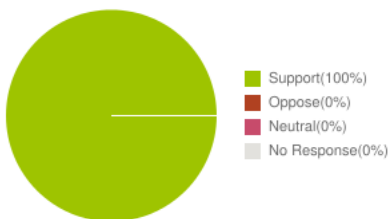
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Agenda Item: eComments for 1 22-592 From the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Revenue Loss Recovery Subgroup requesting authorization of \$21,996,141 million in ARPA Funds for "Fiscal Health Challenge" project requests, which include one-time investments that provide long term cost savings, revenue enhancements, and/or operational efficiencies. (05/26/22 CB Meeting: Referred to the Committee on Parks, Energy, and Environment)

Overall Sentiment



David Cohn

Location:

Submitted At: 2:55pm 06-13-22

Dear members of the Parks, Energy and Environment Committee,

Thank you for taking the time to review the ARPA funding request related to golf course irrigation and cart path construction. I would like to share our support for the proposed allocation of funding.

As you may know, First Tee — Southeast Wisconsin has partnered with Parks for over 20 years to help introduce kids to the game at Noyes Park Golf Course, building character and instilling life-enhancing values that make meaningful impacts well beyond the golf course. Noyes Park Golf Course, is an accessible nine-hole par 3 course and provides Milwaukee County residents and the local community an easy and affordable place to learn and play the game. We value our partnership with Parks and the ability it provides to positively influence kids in the community through the game of golf.

The requested ARPA funds for irrigation at Noyes Park Golf Course address three specific project benefits:

- Provide operational efficiencies including staff time savings and other operational savings
- Return on investment through long-term cost savings and-or revenue generation as a result of a one-time investment
- Funding for improvements that are needed for capital projects and address deferred maintenance

This specific improvement is needed to address the deferred maintenance. The irrigation system is still the original system installed when the course opened in 1975 and is practically obsolete. The lack of an efficient irrigation system has led to a decline in playing conditions, which has ultimately led to less play. As the most affordable and accessible courses in the Milwaukee County Parks system, Noyes Park Golf Course plays an important role in ensuring all members of the community have equitable access to recreation through golf.

For so many years, Parks staff has been doing the best they can with the resources they are given, but those resources only go so far. The efficiencies of a new irrigation system mean that staff time and operational support can be better spent elsewhere.

An updated irrigation system is critical to providing appropriate playing conditions. Not only will better playing conditions increase greens fee revenue at Noyes Park, players who learn to play there will also play at other Milwaukee County Parks courses. With golf being the largest revenue source for Milwaukee County Parks, it is imperative that the smaller courses remain a desirable place to play to help build the next generation of golfers and Milwaukee County Parks Golf customers.

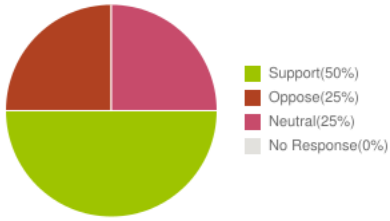
Thank you for your commitment to Milwaukee County Parks and Milwaukee County Parks Golf. We appreciate your support of the ARPA funding allocation and what it will mean for the continued impact we are able to make through golf at Noyes Park.

Sincerely,

David Cohn
Executive Director
First Tee — Southeast Wisconsin

Agenda Item: eComments for 4 22-697 From the Office of Strategy, Budget, and Performance, DAS, and the Parks Department, providing an informational item on the status of the Mitchell Park Domes Project. (INFORMATIONAL ONLY UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE)

Overall Sentiment



Dn McCarthy

Location:

Submitted At: 9:34am 06-14-22

June 14, 2022

Re: Agenda Item #4 Mitchell Park Domes Update

Honorable Chair and Members of the Parks Committee,

The Domes Business Plan Analysis concludes that "With a realistic budget, a reliable revenue projection, and a plan for committed private-sector leadership in place, the County can reframe the Task Force's efforts into a viable and meaningful plan for the future of the Domes."

This analysis, while finding flaws in some of the financing mechanisms in the Domes Task Force Plan, also contains great information on how an updated plan can be devised. It's also one more in a number of consultant reports that concludes that the Domes can have a successful future.

The initial reports studying the condition of the concrete and studying a glazing solution are incredibly positive and show that the restoration of the Domes can be done for far less money than originally estimated.

It is long past time for the County Board to act definitively to move forward on a solution. Please accept the help of citizens that came forward, offering to form a conservancy organization.

Please move forward now with a solution for the Domes and Mitchell Park that preserves the Domes and the horticultural conservatory for future generations to enjoy. Preservation of the Domes is in-line with official County Board policy.

Investment in the Domes is a matter of equity and in line with the County's stated vision of being the healthiest county in the state by achieving racial equity. Mitchell Park has been identified in the Parks Equity Index as being a high equity need park to be prioritized for investment. The neighborhood surrounding the Domes has limited green space and has been hit hard by the pandemic. Preserving and investing in the Domes and surrounding park would preserve and enhance year-round access to the proven physical and mental health benefits green space provides while transforming the Park into a learning, wellness, and horticultural campus that would increase health outcomes in the community.

Thank you for your careful consideration and for your work on behalf of the Milwaukee County public.

Dawn McCarthy

Former member Domes Task Force

2589 N Lake Drive

Milwaukee, WI 53211

Shannon Winterhalter

Location:

Submitted At: 9:13am 06-14-22

I am a resident of the Clarke Square neighborhood and live just a few blocks south of Mitchell Park. I believe

investing in Mitchell Park is critical to show the county's commitment to equity by devoting much needed resources to Milwaukee's near south side neighborhoods. Additionally, I want to emphasize the idea that the preservation of the Domes is a viable, feasible, and important option that should be seriously considered. The Domes are a significant architectural and cultural resource that have the ability to stimulate a healthy and thriving park in addition to healthy and thriving neighborhoods. I say this as both a historic preservation professional and an invested resident of the neighborhood. Thank you.

Andrew Stern

Location:

Submitted At: 9:10am 06-14-22

I strongly support a path forward for the Mitchell Park Domes that includes preservation and rehabilitation of the existing Domes structures. My wife and I are residents of Clarke Square and utilize the Mitchell Park and the Domes frequently. The park is in need of additional investment and additional programming but the Domes need to be at the center of any plans for the park. Investment in the park and in the Domes will strengthen the neighborhood and provide recreational and educational opportunities for Milwaukeeans. The Domes are an architectural gem, unique to Milwaukee, and beloved by generations of residents of the state and beyond.

Jeremy Ebersole

Location:

Submitted At: 5:15pm 06-13-22

On behalf of the Milwaukee Preservation Alliance and Save Our Domes, I applaud the Domes Business Plan Analysis conclusion that, "With a realistic budget, a reliable revenue projection, and a plan for committed private-sector leadership in place, the County can reframe the Task Force's efforts into a viable and meaningful plan for the future of the Domes." We strongly encourage the County to continue forward motion on your important work to make this future a reality.

This preservation solution is corroborated by the 2019 concrete study, Phase 1 of the glazing study, and the 2017 peer review and is in line with the findings of the Domes Task Force, the public's will, and County policy, all of which call for preservation of the Domes as a way to not only preserve an important icon of the County but to advance equity as well. It also avoids the estimated \$15 million cost of demolition, which could be invested in an improved park and facility rather than an empty lot.

Further, while the 2016 GRAEF report claimed that reconstruction is necessary to ensure an additional 50 years of life from the Domes, this information has since been superseded by the more recent 2019 concrete study and peer review of the GRAEF report by an internationally-respected firm with a specialty in the preservation of mid-century buildings. Each of these reports indicate that the structure can be repaired for decades of life and do not need to be rebuilt.

I encourage the County to move forward from a place of possibility. We should not let complexity stop us from advancing. People and organizations are ready and willing to help. Many examples exist of other County-owned properties around the country that have made similarly complex ownership structures work. We can engage them, learn from them, and do the same. Celebrated local examples of Historic Tax Credits being utilized by not-for-profit entities also exist from the Bradley Symphony Center to the Soldiers Home and beyond. We don't need to reinvent the wheel.

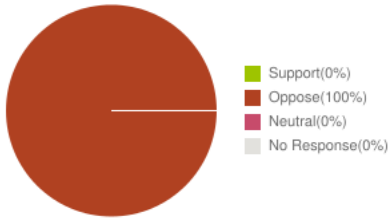
A phased approach investing in solutions now is a reasonable and realistic way forward. Investment in the Domes can begin as larger revitalization plans are developed. This investment will also make the identification of the financial and organizational partners necessary to complete a larger vision easier knowing the County is committed to moving forward with preservation.

Therefore, we encourage the County to not delay in moving forward. We encourage additional information to be gathered exploring new revenue sources like ARPA, analyzing lifecycle costs, gathering cost estimates from experienced preservation contractors, and conducting horticultural assessments, energy audits, or capital campaign feasibility studies. We further encourage work to proceed identifying and reaching out to potential partners as well as submitting the existing National Register nomination, which would carry no risk for the County and put it in a position to work with partners to utilize valuable Historic Tax Credits.

Preservation of the Domes is possible and is the right thing to do for the people of Milwaukee County. We must continue to move toward this goal. Thank you!

Agenda Item: eComments for 5 22-707 A resolution/ordinance amending Section 47.08 of the Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances related to the injury to, destruction, or removal of public property

Overall Sentiment



Jeremy Hooper

Location:

Submitted At: 9:12am 06-14-22

This ordinance change seems very blunt. It could use some nuance to differentiate between a child picking a berry or four-leaf clover vs. somebody's unethical commercial endeavor wiping out a patch of ramps for profit.