

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Inter-Office Communication

Date: June 23, 2023

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 grant WE Energies a permanent easement for an underground electric cable on parkland located by Ryan Road and 15th Avenue in the City of Oak Creek

File Type: Action Report

REQUEST

Authorization to grant a permanent underground electric easement to WE Energies to allow for the upgrade and relocation of an electric distribution system in the City of Oak Creek on the north side of Ryan Road between S Pennsylvania Avenue and 15th Avenue in and across certain portions of parkland.

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 to upgrade and relocate portions of the electric distribution system in the City of Oak Creek. The requested project includes replacing aging infrastructure with new, more reliable equipment. As part of the project, WE Energies will be removing an approximately one mile stretch of overhead wires and lattice towers that extend north out of Pennsylvania Substation. Part of the overhead line, including two of the lattice towers, are located on Milwaukee County Parkland (see attached maps for tower locations).

WE Energies' plan is to relocate these circuits and place them underground by directional bore, east of the substation, along a running line just north of Ryan Road between S Pennsylvania Avenue and 15th Avenue. We are requesting an easement to install underground electric lines (per the plans and maps attached), which will allow for the removal of the abovementioned overhead wires and towers (photos attached).

Parks has reviewed this request and based on the size of the easement, the minimal impact to parkland, natural areas, and recreational activities, the removal of the two towers on parkland, the release of the larger easement, and the overall benefit to the community, is recommending approval of this easement, is recommending approval of this easement. WE Energies is offering \$1.60/square foot (\$69,696/acre) as compensation for the easement. The payment for the 0.1807 acre easement will be approximately \$12,596.

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, which also incurs a fee that is revenue to Parks. 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 utility service to the community and helps Parks meet its revenue goals.

3B: Enhance the County's fiscal health and sustainability
Monies received for the easement helps Parks meet revenue goals.

FISCAL EFFECT

Increase of revenues in the current budget year of approximately \$12,596 to help meet revenue targets.

TERMS

- The easement is permanent.
- One-time payment of approximately \$12,596.
- The easement size is 0.1807 Acre

VIRTUAL MEETING INVITES

Erica Goblet, Contracts Manager, Milwaukee County Parks

Kurt van Dulm, Lead Right of Way Agent, kurt.vandulm@we-energies.com

PREPARED BY:

Erica Goblet, Contracts Manager

APPROVED BY:

Guy Smith, Parks Executive Director



ATTACHMENTS:

Resolution

Fiscal Note

Easement

Aerial Map

Photos

cc: David Crowley, County Executive
Mary Jo Meyers, Chief of Staff, County Executive's Office
Sheldon A. Wasserman, Supervisor District 3, PEEC Chair
Steven Shea, Supervisor District 8, PEEC Vice Chair
Felesia A. Martin, Supervisor District 7, PEEC Member
Juan Miguel Martinez, Supervisor District 12, PEEC Member
Steve F. Taylor, Supervisor District 17, PEEC 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
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