From the Executive Director of Parks seeking retroactive authorization to submit one or more Transportation Alternatives Program grant applications, and to accept related grant awards, by recommending adoption of the following:

A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) is a legislative program administered by the State of Wisconsin's Department of Transportation that was authorized in Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act), and the Federal transportation act that was signed into law on December 4, 2015; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Culture (DPRC) has had a successful experience utilizing TAP grants to address the popular Oak Leaf Trail (OLT) system, one of the most popular transportation alternatives to vehicular travel in our region; and

WHEREAS, in 2021 the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors granted permission for DPRC to apply to the Congestion and Air Quality Mitigation (CMAQ) program for grant funded projects along OLT, and specifically included:

 Hampshire ramp access to enhance bike commuting and access to the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee [UWM] (current access points are relatively far from UWM and the school and neighbors have requested a ramp here)

 OLT Modernization – to bring multiple OLT segments up to modern standards (width and pavement quality, wayfinding signage, and counters) to enhance commuting use and evaluation

; and

WHEREAS, since that time, DPRC was rerouted from CMAQ to the TAP grant program, and successfully received funding awards for each project; and

WHEREAS, requests for project funding match have been submitted for consideration in the 2024 capital budget; and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Parks and Culture, at its meeting of July 18, 2023, recommended adoption of File No. 23-675 (vote 5-0); and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Finance, at its meeting of July 20, 2023, recommended adoption of File No. 23-675 (vote 7-0); now, therefore,

 BE IT RESOLVED, the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Culture is hereby authorized to retroactively apply for and accept one or more Transportation Alternatives Program grants, and to undertake all actions and activities necessary to accept and implement such grant awards offered to Milwaukee County.

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