**COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE**

INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

**DATE:** November 20, 2012

**TO:** Supervisor Marina Dimitrijevic, County Board Chairwoman

**FROM:** Charles Wikenhauser, Zoo Director

**SUBJECT:** **Agreement with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for Traffic Mitigation for the Zoo Interchange Project**

**Request**

The Milwaukee County Zoo requests approval to execute an agreement with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WDOT) for traffic mitigation during the Zoo Interchange Project to ensure safer and more efficient travel near the Milwaukee County Zoo.

**Background**

The project area is defined as interstates I-94 and I894/USH-45 from Lincoln Avenue on the south, west of Underwood Parkway on the west, Burleigh Road on the north and 70th Street on the east. Included in the project area are local and alternate route streets within two miles of the interstate roadways, which will directly impact Zoo guests.

To mitigate traffic impacts caused by the project, the WDOT will provide up to $12,000 in reimbursement to the Milwaukee County Zoo to purchase three point-of-sale tablets to help admit vehicles faster as well as reduce delay on large event days. The Zoo, in turn, will provide planning, coordination and staffing services in an effort to mitigate traffic impacts in the project area and stay informed of roadway closures and construction progress for a two-year period commencing on January 1, 2013 and ending on December 31, 2014.

**Recommendation**

It is recommended that following review by Corporation Counsel and Risk Management, the Director of the Milwaukee County Zoo be authorized to execute an agreement with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for a Traffic Mitigation Plan for the Zoo Interchange Project and to accept up to $12,000 in reimbursement from WDOT for the purchase of three tablets.

Authorization is also requested for the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) to process an administrative fund transfer of $12,000 in the Zoo’s operating budget for the purchase of three point-of-sale tablets which will result in the County incurring costs upfront with reimbursement to be provided from the State.

Charles Wikenhauser

Zoo Director

Pc: Chris Abele, Milwaukee County Executive

 Supervisor Gerry Broderick, Chairman, Parks, Energy & Environment Committee

 Supervisor Willie Johnson, Jr., Co-Chair, Finance, Personnel & Audit Committee

 Supervisor David Cullen, Co-Chair, Finance, Personnel & Audit Committee

 Scott Manske, Comptroller

 Amber Moreen, Chief of Staff, County Executive’s Office

 Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, County Board

 Tia Torhorst, Director of Legislative Affairs, County Executive’s Office

 Patrick Farley, Director, Department of Administrative Services

 Craig Kammholz, Fiscal and Budget Administrator, DAS

 Vincent Masterson, Fiscal and Management Analyst, DAS

 Steve Cady, Fiscal and Budget Analyst, County Board

 Jessica Janz-McKnight, Research Analyst, County Board

 Vera Westphal, Deputy Zoo Director (Administration & Finance)

 Karl Hackbarth, Zoo Operations and Maintenance Coordinator

 Sue Rand, Accounting Manager, Zoo