

# COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE

## INTEROFFICE COMMUNICATION

Date: September 27, 2019

To: Supervisor Theodore Lipscomb, Sr., Chair, County Board of Supervisors

From: Donna Brown-Martin, Director, Department of Transportation

Subject: Authorization to Apply for Wisconsin Department of Transportation Multimodal Local Supplement Grant Funds

### **POLICY**

Per Section 56.06 of the Milwaukee County General Ordinances, authorization is required from the County Board to apply for and execute discretionary federal or state grants that require a local match.

### **BACKGROUND**

The Wisconsin 2019-21 biennial budget provides \$75 million in one-time general purpose revenue funding for local multimodal transportation projects through the Multimodal Local Supplement (MLS) program. The MLS program mirrors aspects of the state's Local Roads Improvement Program but is not subject to the same restrictions and is available to an expanded range of transportation improvement projects.

MLS funding is available for new capital projects related to:

- Roads
- Bridges
- Transit vehicle purchase and facility projects
- Bicycle and pedestrian accommodations
- Railroads
- Harbors

MLS funding is to be allocated statewide between government types with counties eligible to receive up to \$26,082,667. Projects must have a minimum total cost of \$250,000 and grant awards will be capped at \$3,500,000 per project. The MLS program pays up to 90 percent of total eligible costs with local governments providing a minimum 10 percent matching share. Project sponsors are permitted to submit up to three project applications and applications are due to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) by December 6, 2019.

The Department of Transportation (DOT) has collaborated with the Parks Department to determine Milwaukee County's three projects for WisDOT MLS funding consideration. Parks will submit one application and the two project applications to be submitted by DOT are generally described as follows:

<u>Project Title/Budget Year</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>	<u>State Share (90%)</u>	<u>Local Share (10%)</u>
Replacement Buses for MCTS (2021)	\$3,888,889	\$3,500,000	\$388,889
Reconstruction of N. Teutonia Ave. from W. Bradley Rd. to W. Green Bay Rd. (2023)	\$3,000,000	\$2,700,000	\$300,000

Consistent with past practice and state statutes, once the department is made aware of selected projects by WisDOT, a report and resolution will be provided to the county board requesting acceptance of any WisDOT awarded grants. Projects selected for MLS funding will then be included in the appropriate capital budgets, or authorized through the fund transfer process over the grant period along with the required ten percent local matching contribution. DOT expects to be notified of selected projects by WisDOT in early 2020.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

The Director of Transportation requests authorization to submit two applications for state MLS funding to aid in the financing of future DOT capital projects.


#### **FISCAL NOTE**

The Multimodal Local Supplement (MLS) grant program requires a local match of ten percent for capital improvement projects.

The Department of Transportation will request formal Milwaukee County Board approval of the ten percent local matching contribution should either of the MLS projects be approved for grant funding.

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Approved by:

  
Donna Brown-Martin, Director of Transportation

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