

DECEMBER 10, 2019

TO COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND SUPERVISORS:

AT THIS LATE MOMENT, I HAVE DECIDED TO NOT ATTEND THE MEETING BECAUSE I AM CONTAGIOUS WITH A SEVERE RESPIRATORY COLD AND I DON'T WANT TO INFECT ANYONE.

I AM HOPING THAT THIS HANDWRITTEN LETTER REGARDING THE KLETZSCH PARK WATERFALL AND THE PROPOSED FISH PASSAGE IN THE MILWAUKEE RIVER IS HELPFUL.

IN ADDITION TO MY BEING A RIPARIAN OWNER OF THREE ACRES ON THE RIVER 133 FEET DOWNSTREAM FROM THE WATERFALL, I AM PRESIDENT OF THE FRIENDS OF KLETZSCH PARK, A GROUP OF 260 PLUS MEMBERS WHO ARE ALL VERY CONCERNED WITH THE MATTER OF A FISH PASSAGE. I SPEAK FOR THE MAJORITY OF OUR MEMBERS, AND OTHERS, WHO HAVE EXPRESSED AN OPINION ON THE LOCATION OF A FISH PASSAGE.

WE WERE INITIALLY ACQUAINTED WITH THE PROPOSED WESTSIDE PASSAGE BY MILWAUKEE COUNTY PARKS DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL. THE MASSIVE SCOPE OF THIS FIRST PROPOSAL WAS NOT WELL RECEIVED BY ANYONE THAT I HAVE SPOKEN WITH INCLUDING THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF GLENDALE.

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THE REQUEST WAS MADE BY MANY TO THOROUGHLY EXPLORE A LESS INVASIVE ROUTE FOR THE PASSAGE AROUND THE WATERFALL ON THE EAST SIDE OF THE RIVER. INITIALLY, THERE WERE TWO, NON-RESIDING LAND OWNERS THAT WERE HESITANT ABOUT AN EAST SIDE PASSAGE. I AM TOLD THAT THEY HAVE WITHDRAWN THEIR PRIOR OBJECTIONS, THAT HAS RESULTED IN A NOW UNANIMOUS APPROVAL OF AN EAST SIDE PASSAGE. THAT ROUTE INTERCEPTS THE RIVER ABOVE THE WATERFALL, PROCEEDS ACROSS A LOT OWNED BY CITY OF GLENDALE, AND THEN OVER THE LOT OWNED BY TWO GLENDALE CITIZENS, NEITHER OF WHICH RESIDE THEREON, AND THENCE ACROSS TWO LOTS OWNED BY MILWAUKEE COUNTY AND THEN BACK INTO THE RIVER JUST BELOW THE WATERFALL. SPAWNING FISH WOULD HAVE A ROUTE AROUND THE WATERFALL TO WATERS ABOVE.

WHEN WE FIRST ASKED THE PARKS DEPARTMENT TO EXPLORE THIS SIMPLE SOLUTION, WE WERE TOLD THAT THE TWO LANDOWNER, FORMER OBJECTORS, PREVENTED THIS, EVEN THOUGH ONLY ONE OF THEM ACTUALLY OWNED THE PART OF THE LOT TO BE CROSSED. AS ~~THE~~^{SAID}, IT APPEARS THAT THERE ARE NO LONGER ANY OBJECTORS AMONG THE EASTSIDE LANDOWNERS.

THEN, WE WERE TOLD THAT THE PARKS DEPARTMENT CONSULTANT'S "MODEL" INDICATED THAT ANY EASTSIDE ROUTE WOULD RESULT IN A BACK-UP OF WATER ABOVE

THE ~~WATERFALL~~ WATERFALL, DURING A 100 YEAR FLOOD EVENT, THAT WOULD BE CONTRARY TO A "MANDATED" LEVEL.

THIS CONTENTION WOULD HAVE US BELIEVE THAT WATER CAN FLOW UPHILL IF NOTHING ELSE WAS INTRODUCED TO THE PHYSICS OF THE MATTER. WE KNOW OF NO OTHER INGREDIANT THAT WOULD FACTOR INTO PLAY.

LACK OF ACCESS WAS THEN CLAIMED TO BE A FACTOR. SUNNY POINT LANE IS A LEGAL ACCESS THAT PREVIOUSLY ALLOWED HEAVY MACHINERY TO TAKE DOWN A HOUSE.

YOUR CHAIRMAN, THEO LIPSCOMB, INSPECTED THE LAND OWNERSHIPS ON SITE AND CONCLUDED THAT THE EASTSIDE PASSAGE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED. WE BELIEVE THAT ENGINEERING WOULD CONFIRM THAT THIS ALTERNATIVE IS POSSIBLE AND LESS EXPENSIVE THAN A WESTSIDE PASSAGE. ALSO, IT WOULD BE FAR LESS INTRUSIVE TO THE TREES, LIMITED AVAILABLE AREA AND LIKELY DESTRUCTION OF HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT AND CULTURALLY SENSITIVE SITE!

THANK YOU FOR READING!

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