

1  
2  
3 From the Executive Director, Milwaukee County Parks, requesting authorization to  
4 accept a Greater Milwaukee Foundation grant to support the Wisconsin Policy Forum in  
5 researching long-term, dedicated funding options to sustain the Milwaukee County  
6 Parks system for future generations, by recommending adoption of the following:  
7

8 **A RESOLUTION**  
9

10 WHEREAS, the Greater Milwaukee Foundation (GMF) Parks Fund was  
11 established in 2018 to steward private donations for future improvement projects  
12 within the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Culture (DPRC); and  
13

14 WHEREAS, DPRC faces historic staffing and funding challenges, reaching  
15 all-time low levels of staffing and operating budget resources; and  
16

17 WHEREAS, DPRC's long-term funding mechanisms have been in decline for  
18 over a decade, steadily becoming more dependent on revenue generation (60  
19 percent of operations budget) with less tax funding (only 40 percent) directly  
20 supporting our non-mandated department; and  
21

22 WHEREAS, DPRC's fiscal model is unsustainable, and alternatives must be  
23 identified; our system is at risk; and  
24

25 WHEREAS, DPRC seeks to utilize grant funds from the GMF Parks Fund to  
26 support the development of a research project to review the history of Milwaukee  
27 County's financial support for parks, reassess the department's current financial  
28 condition and challenges, and consider the range of options for creating an equitable,  
29 sustainable financial path forward for DPRC; and  
30

31 WHEREAS, this research would be conducted by the Wisconsin Policy Forum  
32 (WPF) at a total cost of \$37,300; and  
33

34 WHEREAS, DPRC seeks to leverage \$27,500 from the GMF Parks Fund for this  
35 work, with the additional \$10,200 coming from outside funding pursued by WPF; and  
36

37 WHEREAS, the Executive Director, DPRC, recommends that DPRC be  
38 authorized to accept a grant from the GMF Parks Fund; and  
39

40 WHEREAS, the Committee on Finance, at its meeting of December 10, 2020,  
41 recommended adoption of File No. 20-867 (vote 6-0); now, therefore,  
42

43 BE IT RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors hereby  
44 authorizes the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Culture (DPRC) to accept a  
45 grant from the Greater Milwaukee Foundation Parks Fund; and  
46

47 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, DPRC, the Office of Performance, Strategy  
48 and Budget, Department of Administrative Services, and the Office of the  
49 Comptroller are authorized to execute administrative fund transfers or necessary  
50 documents to execute the transaction.

51

52

53 srb

54 12/10/2020

55 S:\Committees\2020\Dec\FINANCE\Resolutions\20-867 Parks - Greater Milwaukee Foundation Grant-WI Policy

56 Forum Research.docx