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

AN ENGROSSED RESOLUTION

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, the remaining \$10,200 needed in funding for the study was secured through a grant provided by the Herzfeld Foundation on October 1, 2020; and

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

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

47 BE IT RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors hereby
48 authorizes the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Culture (DPRC) to accept a grant
49 from the Greater Milwaukee Foundation Parks Fund **and from the Herzfeld**
50 **Foundation via the Wisconsin Policy Forum**; and

51
52 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, DPRC, the Office of Performance, Strategy
53 and Budget, Department of Administrative Services, and the Office of the
54 Comptroller are authorized to execute administrative fund transfers or necessary
55 documents to execute the transaction.

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61 Engrossed Resolution 121720 Greater Milwaukee Foudation Grant- WI Policy Forum .docx