



January Board Cycle

Milwaukee County Parks
9480 Watertown Plank Rd.
Wauwatosa, WI 53226
(414) 257-PARK

Date: December 30, 2020
To: Marcelia Nicholson, Chairwoman, County Board of Supervisors
From: Guy Smith, Executive Director, Milwaukee County Parks
Subject: **McKinley Beach Study (INFO)**

Issue

Milwaukee County Parks seeks to undertake a project to identify measures necessary to improve swim safety, beach sustainability, and water quality at McKinley Beach.

Background

McKinley Beach was constructed in 1989 and serves to not only provide a recreational resource along the lakefront, but also functions as a buffer between Lake Michigan and Lincoln Memorial Drive. Since its construction, the beach has experienced changing lake levels and site conditions. In August of 2020 McKinley Beach was closed due to riptide hazards, several near drownings, and two fatal drowning incidents. Milwaukee County Parks takes park user safety very seriously and has begun considering what remedies to the site conditions are necessary in order to have a safe, active, and sustainable beach.

Budget amendment 1A020 appropriated \$10,000 *to retain, if needed, professional assistance to perform a safety study at McKinley Beach. The safety study shall include information related to the prevention of drownings, the conditions of the water and its currents, the condition of the beach, any remediation efforts that should be executed by Milwaukee County, and any other relevant findings. DPRC shall provide an initial report to the County Board of Supervisors by the March 2021 cycle, including an estimate of any costs associated with completing the study. A final report shall be provided to the County Board of Supervisors by the May 2021 cycle.*

Preliminary due diligence into such a study has indicated that approximately \$80,000 is necessary in order to carryout the necessary elements of the project, including:

1. Bathymetric Survey, Wave Analysis: \$35,000
 - a. Contour Map of the Lakebed



- b. Wave Height Calculation
- c. Wave Analysis Modeling
2. Geotechnical Engineering; \$5,000
 - a. Sediment grab samples and drilling along the shoreline.
 - b. Sieve Analysis
 - c. Geotechnical Report
3. Coastal Engineering: \$40,000
 - a. Report
 - i. Swim safety
 - ii. Beach sustainability in high and low water levels
 - iii. Water quality
 - iv. Define the problem(s)
 - v. Explain the various solutions/preliminary assessment
 1. Exhibits
 2. Engineering Drawings
 - vi. Construction Estimate
 1. Explanation and discussion on the cost to complete various solutions
 - vii. Construction phasing and possible construction schedule.

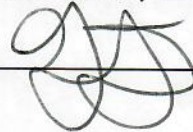
In general, the effort includes modeling effort, report and preliminary assessment of possible solutions.

Recommendation

No action required; report is for informational purposes only.

Prepared By: Sarah Toomsen, Manager of Planning and Development, Milwaukee County Parks

Approved By: Guy Smith, Executive Director, Milwaukee County Parks



Attachments

- A1 – Aerial photos of McKinley Beach (1995-2020)

Copy

- David Crowley, County Executive
- Mary Jo Meyers, Chief of Staff, County Executive's Office
- Sheldon Wasserman, Parks, Energy & Environment Chair, Supervisor District 3
- Steven Shea, Parks, Energy & Environment Committee Vice-Chair, Supervisor District 8
- Felesia Martin, Parks, Energy & Environment Committee Member, Supervisor District 7



- Sylvia Ortiz-Velez, Parks, Energy & Environment Committee Member, Supervisor District 12
- Liz Sumner, Parks, Energy & Environment Committee Member, Supervisor District 1
- Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, County Board
- Julie Landry, Director, Department of Administrative Services
- Joseph Lamers, Fiscal & Budget Director, DAS
- Vince Masterson, Fiscal & Strategic Asset Coordinator, DAS
- Pamela Bryant, Capital Finance Manager, Comptroller's Office
- Justin Rodriguez, Capital Finance Analyst, Comptroller's Office
- Kelsey Evans, Committee Coordinator, Office of the County Clerk
- Emily Peterson, Research & Policy Analyst, Office of the Comptroller
- Lindsey Peterson, Budget & Management Analyst, DAS-PSB

