

# Parks, Energy and Environment Committee on 2021-01-26 9:00 AM - VIRTUAL MEETING

This meeting will be live-streamed on the County Legislative Information Center:

<https://milwaukeecounty.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

Meeting Time: 01-26-21 09:00

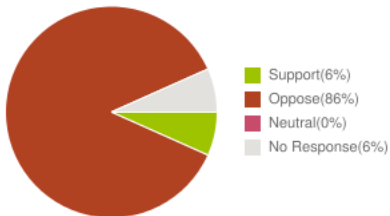
## eComments Report

Meetings	Meeting Time	Agenda Items	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
Parks, Energy and Environment Committee on 2021-01-26 9:00 AM - VIRTUAL MEETING This meeting will be live-streamed on the County Legislative Information Center: <a href="https://milwaukeecounty.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx">https://milwaukeecounty.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx</a>	01-26-21 09:00	24	15	1	13	0

### Sentiments for All Meetings

The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

#### Overall Sentiment



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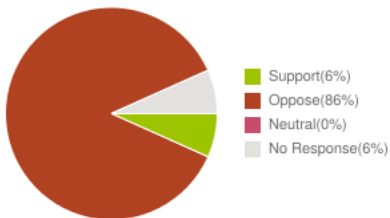
01-26-21 09:00

Agenda Name	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
3 21-90 From the Director of Milwaukee of County Parks, requesting authorization to revise the funding formula for CAMPAC awards.	1	1	0	0
7 21-98 From the Executive Director of the Parks Department providing an update on the progress of improvements by The Dock to the Bradford Beach House. (INFORMATIONAL ONLY UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE)	14	0	13	0

## Sentiments for All Agenda Items

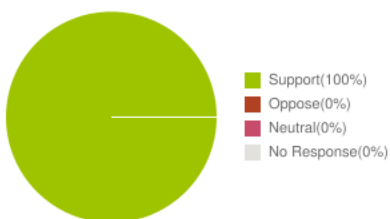
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### Overall Sentiment



Agenda Item: eComments for 3 21-90 From the Director of Milwaukee of County Parks, requesting authorization to revise the funding formula for CAMPAC awards.

### Overall Sentiment



## Sally Stanton

Location:

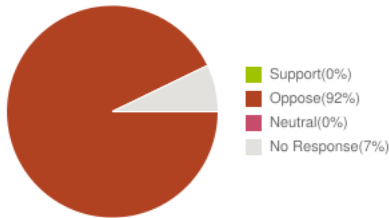
Submitted At: 9:06am 01-26-21

I fully support the proposed revision of the funding formula for the CAMPAC awards. This update is long overdue, and approving it sends a strong signal to our many employers and workers in the nonprofit arts sector that the County values their contribution to the quality of life and the County's economic vitality. It also creates equity for the many smaller, but no less important, nonprofits who serve residents who don't have consistent access to the arts. I urge you to approve this new formula and thank you for your support. In addition to being a County resident, I am also the President of the Boulevard Theatre, founded in 1985, the Executive Director of the Master

Singers of Milwaukee, founded in 1973, and the Administrative Coordinator of the Milwaukee Choristers, which celebrates its 46th seasons. These organizations are small but stellar examples of nonprofit performing arts groups that do not receive UPAF funding and so must look to other sources of support for their ongoing operations. They employ other staff in addition to me; they pay artists and arts-related workers, and they make Milwaukee County an attractive option for other employers. These arts organizations, as well as the others funded through CAMPAC, return MORE in sales tax revenue each year than they receive in funding. This is a win-win. Thank you.

Agenda Item: eComments for 7 21-98 From the Executive Director of the Parks Department providing an update on the progress of improvements by The Dock to the Bradford Beach House. (INFORMATIONAL ONLY UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE)

#### Overall Sentiment



#### **LAUREN POPPEN**

Location:

Submitted At: 10:22am 01-26-21

I like that there is an effort to bring more people to the beach and to use this beautiful building, but as it is a Parks space, it's hard to support the creation of a restaurant that would seem to limit the use of the space to paying customers. I could be in support of this position if the restaurant allowed open, public use of the tables, but otherwise it seems to exclude those with less expendable income. Is it possible to model it like some of the beer gardens in the area that have seating areas open to all to gather whether or not anything is purchased? Some of them even have food truck nights and encourage purchasing from other vendors. I'd love to expand the use of the space and make it a gathering place, but I don't want it to be a closed-off restaurant.

#### **Alex Magoon**

Location:

Submitted At: 9:06am 01-26-21

I oppose the proposed improvements to the bathhouse at Bradford Beach. I cite the joint letter dated October 31, 2020 by representatives of Midwest Environmental Advocates, Milwaukee Riverkeeper, Milwaukee Water Commons, Preserve Our Parks, Wisconsin's Green Fire: Voices for Conservation, and Wisconsin Wildlife Federation. The public interest is not served by licensing valuable public properties and natural resources to private corporations for private profits. The execution of the proposed project is not only unsightly, but a potential danger to the bathhouse's structural integrity. This proposal is an insult to, and denigration of, the work done to make the current Milwaukee lakefront a space for public access. The community deserves full access to resources on the lakefront, not a piecemeal privatization by monied interests without the community's best interests at heart.

#### **Janice Wilberg**

Location:

Submitted At: 8:32am 01-26-21

I am absolutely opposed to any privatization of this space. Bradford is one of Milwaukee's most valuable public resources and must remain so for future generations.

#### **Stephen Schaller**

Location:

Submitted At: 7:59am 01-26-21

I live with my wife and two young children in the North Point neighborhood and I am outraged that I even need to submit a comment about this awful proposal. Under no circumstances should public land be sold off to a private company, especially one that is out-of-state.

Public land is sacred, particularly in an era of pandemics, when families have limited options of safe recreation. It is offensive that the City of Milwaukee is even considering selling off this historic, incredibly valuable real estate, and shutting it off to the public.

I could not oppose this proposal more vehemently.

### **Jack Klika**

Location:

Submitted At: 12:02am 01-26-21

The developers are from illinois and should have no right to fundamentally change our beachfront. People can pay to have a high-and-mighty view over bradford beach which feels classist and not in the spirit of the beach. Listen to the people!! Shipping containers would look tacky anyways. It was fine how it was.

A small local beer stand would be OK but why let people from IL come in here and do this?

### **Brian Want**

Location:

Submitted At: 10:51pm 01-25-21

I oppose this plan on the grounds that it limits public access to a lakefront area that should remain widely open to all and that the proposal would also mean an unsightly addition to an architecturally interesting building. While I sometimes support privatization or commercialization efforts when they add value without detracting from a public amenity, this proposal strikes me as more harmful than helpful to county residents, with the company's arguments seeming especially spurious -- a bad faith money grab.

### **Jeff Bentoff**

Location:

Submitted At: 10:44pm 01-25-21

I am concerned about several aspects of this proposal, which could cause 1) loss of public access to parts of the bathhouse for private usage and events, 2) increase in alcohol sales and drinking and with it a further loss of a safe family atmosphere in this park, 3) permanent physical damage to this historic structure by installing 2.6-ton shipping containers on the upper floor, 4) increased noise in the neighborhood from an upper-floor outdoor bar much closer to Wahl Avenue than the beach bars, 5) degradation of the historic nature of this building designed in the curvilinear Moderne-style by installing giant, ugly, rectangular, steel containers, 6) lack of an ADA plan approved by Milwaukee's Historic Preservation Commission, 7) creation of financial barriers to beach use by low-income residents who won't be able to enjoy the upper level of the structure and the great views of the lake without paying for drinks or food, and 8) precedent-setting violation of the Public Trust Doctrine.

I am also concerned there has been no proactive outreach from the Parks Department or our county supervisor to neighbors and resident groups to inform us of the plan, of its progress and to seek input.

I ask that the Parks Committee and Parks Department halt the approval process for this proposal until meetings are scheduled and input is sought and received from the general public, nearby residents and the Historic Water Tower Neighborhood organization. Milwaukee County should guarantee that residents and the structure will not be negatively affected by the issues I've raised before approving this proposal.

### **Laurel Cutright**

Location:

Submitted At: 9:06pm 01-25-21

While partnerships can go a long way to fill the gaps in our County budget, especially our County Parks budget, I

do not think any action that limits or restricts access to our lakeshore is appropriate. Our county has a long standing tradition of and reputation for ensuring access to our lakefront, which creating additional private spaces and restricting access to public bathrooms does not uphold. Limiting parking and making parks pay-to-play has a disproportionate impact on residents of color, who are often in segregated communities farther from the lake and so cannot walk or even ride the bus to Bradford Beach. This has always been one of the most accessible beaches to a wide variety of Milwaukee residents, please endeavor to keep it so!

Finally, partnering with a private company that is not from Milwaukee or even Wisconsin does not serve, enrich, or uphold our community. Absentee landlords do nothing to ensure the continued access to the heritage of our lakefront.

### **Jake Miller**

Location:

Submitted At: 7:48pm 01-25-21

I strongly oppose this private development. Not only would it be a visual eyesore, but would cater to private business owners and drinkers, rather than an inclusive range of citizens who currently enjoy the lake as is.

I vehemently believe the lakeshore should remain in public hands, and any development approved should be civically minded and be for the benefit of the average citizen.

The beauty of the lakefront does not come from private development, but from the free natural beauty and open public access.

This development needs to be denied.

### **Taylor Soderling**

Location:

Submitted At: 7:37pm 01-25-21

I oppose the notion of privatizing any part of Milwaukee's public riverfront. The intention of the parks system on Lake Michigan was to grant any individual ease of access to the parks, beaches, and waters of the Milwaukee metropolitan area. This proposal demonstrates a lazy effort to turn public land into private profit. The execution to boot is extremely lazy, plopping shipping containers on an existing structure that has warranted warnings due to structural integrity. Any improvements to the beach promised by The Dock LLC would be better realized as a public, municipal effort.

### **John Yeksigian**

Location:

Submitted At: 7:01pm 01-25-21

I oppose the proposed renovations. I think that shipping containers would be an eyesore on that building, and that the city should not be enabling private company to be profiting from public land.

### **Jeremy Ebersole**

Location:

Submitted At: 5:08pm 01-25-21

The Milwaukee Preservation Alliance opposes the proposed further development of the Bradford Beach Pavilion building, which we believe to be inconsistent with the cultural heritage of the site. This 1949 Art Moderne landmark is a Milwaukee County Historic Landmark as well as a contributing structure to the City of Milwaukee's North Point North Historic District and within the National Register-eligible Lake Michigan Parkway North County Historic District. The proposed use of the upper deck of the pavilion, which would result in the loss of full public access, is inconsistent with the historic cultural character of the historic bathhouse as a place held in the public trust and accessible to all. The beach house was constructed to be a public amenity, and it is as such that it derives a portion of its historic significance. Proper preservation practice insists that cultural heritage be protected as vigilantly as architectural heritage, and we oppose any alteration to the structure that would result in a loss of the integrity of feeling and association from privatizing this historic public amenity. Thank you for your time and your service to the people of Milwaukee County.

### **Sally Durgerian**

Location:

Submitted At: 11:45am 01-25-21

Bradford Beach House should be accessible to all county residents. There are plenty of opportunities to get food and drink at Bradford Beach, the parking lots and beach are popular, and no more amenities are needed to make Bradford Beach attractive. Those who want fancy dining with a lake view can go to Harbor House or Lake Park Bistro. Milwaukee Art Museum and Discovery World can be rented for private parties with a lake view.

**Jaclyn Mich**

Location:

Submitted At: 9:49am 01-24-21

I do not support private facilities at the beach house. Private every spaces result in picking and choosing who gets to enjoy the public lakefront, and it is inherently exclusive. These proposed developments are not consistent with the Public Trust Doctrine provisions of our Constitution.