



CITY OF WAUWATOSA
MEMO

To: **Financial Affairs Committee**

From: **Alex Krutsch, Parks and Forestry Superintendent**

Date: **April 4, 2023**

Subject: **Memo from the Parks and Forestry Superintendent requesting approval of an application for grant funding from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to support development of the 116th Street Park.**

A. Issue

The Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Fund (KNS), administered by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR), is a grant program supporting the development of outdoor recreation in Wisconsin. The application process for a local government requires a resolution in support of the application by that government's governing body. City staff is requesting approval of a resolution supporting an application to KNS for funds to develop the 116th Street Park at this time.

B. Background/Options

The Common Council has allocated 2 million dollars of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds through the City's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for the development of a new city park located at the intersection of 116th Street and Gilbert Avenue on the City's West side. In 2022, during the new parks master planning phase, the City's consultant, Site Design, estimated development and construction costs for the park at 4.5 million dollars. City staff, along with the City's project consultants, are now seeking grant funding to close the funding gap.

The KNS fund is administered by the DNR and offers grant based funding for the development of outdoor recreation facilities in Wisconsin with an emphasis on passive recreational opportunities. City staff intends to apply for \$235,000 in funds to construct a fully accessible restroom with an adult changing table as part of phase 1 of the parks construction schedule. Other park elements in phase 1 development include grading, lighting, paths, landscaping, and storm water features.

C. Strategic Plan (Area of Focus)

Priority 3: Infrastructure & Priority 5: Quality of Life

D. Fiscal Impact

There is no anticipated impact to the City's general fund nor the CIP as part of this grant application. Staff intends to use funds already secured from the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District's (MMSD) Green Solutions program as matching funds for any award secured by the City through the KNS fund.

E. Recommendation

Approval of a resolution supporting the application for grant funding from the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Fund in the amount of \$235,000.