

To: Library Board Fr: Alanna Maddox, Circulation Supervisor and Peter Loeffel, Library Director July 16, 2025 Re: Welcome Card Pilot Program

Purpose/Need

Milwaukee Public Libraries (MPL) is considering a pilot program and has invited Wauwatosa Public Library (WPL) to be a part of the discussion.

Background

In an effort to reduce barriers to access, MPL is exploring creating a Welcome Card that would make it easier for patrons who lack access to identification to sign up for a library card. MPL is considering implementing a pilot program based on similar programs enacted by other libraries. MPL reached out to WPL as part of its exploratory process, and WPL staff is interested in participating in a joint pilot program. A pilot program would allow WPL to evaluate the need and demand for this type of program, as well as evaluate its effectiveness.

Recommendation

To approve having WPL join MPL in developing a Welcome Card pilot program for Wauwatosa and Milwaukee residents.