



COMMISSION FILE NO: 26-068-6 **DATE INTRODUCED:** June 8, 2026

INTRODUCED BY: Executive Director (Signature on File in the Office of the Commission)

REFERRED BY COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON TO: Operations Committee

RELATING TO: Award of Contract W20035D01, Engineering and Ecological Services – County Grounds Basins Wildlife Enhancements

SUMMARY:

The Commission is requested to award and to direct the Executive Director to execute on behalf of the District Contract W20035D01, Engineering and Ecological Services for County Grounds Basins Wildlife Enhancements, to Graef-USA, Inc., (Graef) in an amount not to exceed \$232,834. Graef was the highest scoring proposer among four proposals received based on a qualifications-based selection method. Costs to the District associated with this contract will be reimbursed through Great Lakes Restoration Initiative grants from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

In 2011, the District completed construction of a floodwater management facility at Milwaukee County Grounds. The facility was designed to receive flood water from Underwood Creek when the creek flow exceeded the 25% annual exceedance probability flow, store the flood water in two connected basins, and slowly release it to the Menomonee River. The flood basins are relatively flat but slope toward the outlet structure and contain a small swale. There is one small open water area near the inlet structure; all other areas within the basins are vegetated.

Milwaukee County Grounds is a 165-acre greenspace that comprises important diverse habitat types, including forest, grassland, and wetland, and supports several native species of birds and other wildlife. Large natural areas with multiple habitat types are rare within the Milwaukee Metropolitan area. Because it offers a rare opportunity to protect and enhance a large area with diverse habitat types, enhancing the habitat at Milwaukee County Grounds was identified as a necessary management action for addressing the Milwaukee Estuary Area of Concern.

ATTACHMENTS: BACKGROUND KEY ISSUES RESOLUTION
FISCAL NOTE SBE OTHER _____

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COMMITTEE ACTION: _____ **DATE:** _____

COMMISSION ACTION: _____ **DATE:** _____

SUMMARY (Cont'd)

Award of Contract W20035D01, Engineering and Ecological Services – County Grounds Basins Wildlife Enhancements

Potential enhancements to the basins include removal of invasive species and creation of open water areas with variable water depths. Enhancements will not be permitted to compromise the flood management function of the basins.

Under Contract W20035D01, Graef will provide the following services:

- Project management.
- Hydrologic and hydraulic analyses.
- Regulatory assistance.
- Public outreach assistance.
- Wetland assessment and design.
- Construction document development.
- Bid and award assistance.
- Engineering services during construction.
- Post-construction project assessment.

The District has secured funding through a USEPA Great Lakes Restoration Initiative grant that will reimburse the District for professional services costs for all of the design phase tasks listed above (through construction document development). When the design tasks are complete, Graef will stop work until the District secures additional grant funding to cover the costs of construction phase services.

The contract duration is estimated to be seven years but will depend on timing of receipt of grant funding for project construction.

RESOLUTION

Award of Contract W20035D01, Engineering and Ecological Services – County
Grounds Basins Wildlife Enhancements

RESOLVED, by the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage Commission, that Contract W20035D01, Engineering and Ecological Services – County Grounds Basins Wildlife Enhancements, is awarded to Graef-USA, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$232,834, and that the Executive Director is directed to execute a contract on behalf of the District.