

May 9, 2002

To the Honorable, the Common Council

Subject: Marsupial Bridge Project

Dear Council Members:

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WISDOT) has informed the City of Milwaukee that the Marsupial Bridge project has been approved for funding under the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) program. This project consists of designing and constructing a bicycle/pedestrian bridge suspended from the Holton Street Viaduct. The Marsupial Bridge will provide a valuable bicycle and pedestrian link between the Beerline "B" residential developments along the Milwaukee River and the commercial district along East Brady Street. The Marsupial Bridge is one element of a comprehensive redevelopment plan for the area which includes the planned work in Kilbourn Park, planned bicycle trails connecting downtown with the Riverwest neighborhood, and the extensive private residential development which is currently taking place in the area.

The WISDOT has submitted the attached Project Agreement to be executed by the City of Milwaukee for the programming and construction of the bicycle/pedestrian bridge project with 80 percent CMAQ funds. The remaining 20 percent of the project costs will be paid with Tax Incremental District No. 22 funds.

We have prepared and recommend adoption of the attached resolution which authorizes and directs the Commissioner of Public Works to execute the Project Agreement and authorizes and directs the City Comptroller to create the proper accounts for the estimated cost of preliminary engineering.

Very truly yours,

Jeffrey S. Polenske, P.E.
City Engineer

Mariano A. Schifalacqua
Commissioner of Public Works

Julie A. Penman
Commissioner
Department of City Development

JJM:cjt
Attachments

c: Mr. W. M. Morics