

LRB – FISCAL REVIEW SECTION ANALYSIS

FINANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

ITEM 14, FILE 021777

APRIL 9, 2003

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File #021777 is a resolution relative to the application for a Milwaukee Road Collection Processing Grant by the Milwaukee Public Library.

Background and Discussion

1. This resolution authorizes the Milwaukee Public Library (MPL) to apply for a Milwaukee Road Grant from the National Railway Historical Society (NRHS). The purpose of the grant is to provide graduate students to aid in the processing of the archives of Milwaukee Road Railroad (MRR). *This is a new grant.*
2. Since 1994, the NRHS has provided matching grants for projects that preserve, research, educate or publish railway history. Past projects have included railroad structure and equipment stabilization, preservation and restoration, cataloging of archival materials and oral and history products. Individual grants vary from \$500 to \$5,000.
3. The grant supports the Library goal to coordinate a grant writing program to identify, apply for, implement and receive grant funding to enhance collections, equipment and services. The archiving continues to preserve the Milwaukee historical past, its relevancy for now and the future. The people of Milwaukee are tied to the MRR. A wide variety of patrons in Milwaukee and elsewhere use the collection.
4. The funding will process the MRR technical drawings collection. The technical drawings include buildings and fixed equipment – *depots, roundhouses and signal towers*; rolling stock - *engines and cabooses*; right of way maps and other subjects.
5. The Milwaukee Road Historical Association is a co-applicant of this grant and has assisted the Library in processing the archives of MRR. The graduate students will be from UW-Milwaukee's Library Science/Archives Program. MPL estimates that 8 – 10 graduate students will aid in the processing of the collection.

Fiscal Impact

1. The maximum amount of a Milwaukee Road Collection Processing Grant is \$5,000. The grant will be matched through an in-kind contribution provided by the Milwaukee Road Historical Association in cataloging assistance and processing of the MRR archival collection.
2. The timetable includes applying for the grant in April 2003, with the grant period September 1, 2003 through August 31, 2004.

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