



Department of City Development
City Plan Commission
Redevelopment Authority of the City of Milwaukee
Neighborhood Improvement Development Corporation

Rocky Marcoux
Commissioner
rmarco@milwaukee.gov

Martha L. Brown
Deputy Commissioner
mbrown@milwaukee.gov

January 26, 2016

To the Honorable Members of the
Zoning, Neighborhoods and Development Committee
City of Milwaukee
City Hall, Room 205

Dear Committee Members:

File No. 151194 relates to the change in zoning from Downtown - Civic Activity to Park for the Milwaukee County Historical Society located at 910 North Old World Third Street, on the east side of North Old World Third Street and north of West Kilbourn Avenue, in the 4th Aldermanic District.

This zoning change was initiated by the City of Milwaukee and will allow the zoning to be consistent with the use on the site. The parks district is established to accommodate a wide variety of public and quasi-public open spaces and facilities providing recreational and cultural opportunities and supporting services to surrounding neighborhoods. A cultural institution within a Parks zoning district is permitted, provided the facility is owned and operated by a governmental agency or entity.

On January 25, 2016, a public hearing was held. At that time, several people spoke on the file. Teig Whaley-Smith of the Milwaukee County Dept. of Administration stated that they are not opposed to the zoning change provided that, if the building was to be sold to the Milwaukee County Historical Society at some point in the future, they would meet the definition of governmental agency or entity so that it would be permitted to operate as it currently does. A City Attorney's opinion has been requested to determine this. Additionally, Supervisor Moore Omokunde stated that he supports this zoning change as it would allow the County Board to keep public assets in public hands, as assets that are not zoned PK are able to be sold by the County Executive without Board approval. The Vice President of the Board of Trustees for the Milwaukee County Historical Society stated that they are currently negotiating a lease with Milwaukee County for the site (the present lease expired in 2015), and does not object to the zoning change provided they would meet the PK definition. Alderman Bauman, sponsor of the file, stated that he is in favor of the zoning change, and that the rezoning to PK would be consistent with the site's current operations. Since the zoning change is consistent with the Downtown Comprehensive Plan and reflects the current use of the site, the City Plan Commission at its regular meeting on January 25, 2016 recommended approval of the subject file.

Sincerely,

Rocky Marcoux
Executive Secretary
City Plan Commission of Milwaukee

cc: Ald. Robert Bauman

