

LRB-FISCAL REVIEW SECTION ANALYSIS

OCTOBER 12, 2005
FINANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

ITEM 23 FILE # 050755
EMMA J. STAMPS

File # 050755 is a resolution appropriating \$150,000 from the Harassment Settlement Trust Account in the Permanent Improvement Fund for a Housing Trust Fund.

Background

1. Common Council Resolutions No. 020125 and No. 020126 that authorized the acceptance of \$375,000 in contributions from former Mayor John Norquist and his wife, Susan Mudd, established the Harassment Settlement Account trust account.
2. The dissolved Citizens for Norquist campaign fund provided the proceeds.
3. These funds are available for general City purposes only after the Common Council provides the necessary budgetary and expenditure authority.
4. In May 2005, Milwaukee Police Department received authorization for a \$225,000 appropriation against the \$375,000 fund balance to purchase tracking/professional standards software, pursuant to Common Council Resolution 041453, leaving a balance of \$150,000.

Discussion

1. The City of Milwaukee has been requested to assist in starting up a City of Milwaukee Housing Trust Fund to assist the growing number of homeless and other economically disadvantaged persons in Milwaukee.
2. Planning for a City of Milwaukee Housing Trust Fund is in its infancy because the goals, strategies, governing and advisory bodies, financial sustainability plans, and overall structure have not been defined or developed.
3. This file appropriates \$150,000 from the Harassment Settlement Account in the Permanent Improvement Fund to fund a City of Milwaukee Housing Trust Fund.
4. The funds shall be used accordingly:
 - **Consultant - \$25,000:** The consultant will work with an advisory task force to perform various tasks related to the start-up of a City of Milwaukee Housing Trust Fund, including but not limited to development of a formal structure for the administration of the Housing Trust Fund, recommendation of guidelines for selection and development of projects, and identification of on-going sources of revenue to support the Housing Trust Fund's future projects.
 - **Start up funding signature project - \$125,000:** Start-up funding for the Housing Trust Fund's signature project requires approval by Common Council resolution.

5. The composition of the membership of the Housing Trust Fund's advisory task force shall require Common Council approval by resolution, and the appropriation and expenditure of the \$150,000 for the purposes previously stated herein shall also require Common Council approval.

Fiscal Effect

Adopting File No. 050755 has no fiscal impact since it draws against a non-city tax levy funding account. Release of the funds requires further Common Council approval by resolution.

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LRB-Fiscal Review Section
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