Reply to Common Council File No. 011136

From DOA-Budget and Management Division

January 10, 2002

Ref: 02009 (01)

Common Council File No. 011136 is a resolution authorizing an appropriation of $152,050 from the 2002 Common Council Contingent Fund to the Library Board's Reciprocal Borrowing Special Fund Account. The appropriation will be used to make payment to the West Allis Library Board for reciprocal borrowing costs incurred between April 1, 2001 and September 30, 2001. In anticipation of this circumstance, additional funding was placed in the 2002 Common Council Contingent Fund for this purpose.

The Milwaukee Public Library is a member of the Milwaukee County Federated Library System (MCFLS). Participants in this system agree to reimburse one another for borrowing costs incurred by their residents at other member libraries. At the time the 2002 budget was adopted, West Allis, Greenfield and Wauwatosa had not signed the MCFLS 2001-2004 Member Agreement. These non-signatory libraries were therefore not entitled to receive payment for services rendered beyond March 31, 2001. Due to the uncertainty of their participation, $420,458 was placed in the Contingent Fund rather than the Library budget to cover payment to these libraries.

West Allis signed the member agreement on November 13, 2001 and the Library Board subsequently voted to make their full payment. The Library Board has taken the position that should Wauwatosa and Greenfield sign the agreement under the same conditions as the rest of the libraries in the system by January 31, 2002, they will also make their payment in full. This would require an additional appropriation from the Common Council Contingent Fund of $285,556.

RECCOMENDATION: APPROVE COMMON COUNCIL FILE NO. 011136 AUTHORIZING APPROPRIATION OF $152,050 FROM THE COMMON COUNCIL CONTINGENT FUND TO THE LIBRARY BOARD RECIPROCAL BORROWING SPECIAL FUND FOR PURPOSES OF PAYMENT TO THE WEST ALLIS LIBRARY.

Jennifer C. Gonda
Budget and Management Analyst – Sr.

JCG:

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