

## LRB – FISCAL REVIEW SECTION ANALYSIS

MAY 20, 2003 AGENDA  
PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE

ITEM 9, FILE 030205  
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File 030205 is a resolution authorizing the application for a grant under the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Stewardship Local Assistance Program for the purpose of constructing a riverwalk connection between the existing Downtown Riverwalk system and the developing Historic Third Ward Riverwalk. (DPW)

### **Background and Discussion**

1. To date, this file does not include copies of the grant application or grant operating budgets for LRB review and analysis. Therefore, histories on this grant were researched from a handbook available on the Wisconsin DNR website <http://www.dnr.wisconsin.gov>.
2. The new Stewardship Program is a \$60 million per year umbrella for a number of separate subprograms, each with its own goals, priorities, and criteria related to conservation and expanding outdoor recreation opportunities.
3. Up to \$8 million a year for ten years is allocated to the local assistance grant programs. Currently these funds are allocated 50% to Acquisition & Development of Local Parks, 20% to Urban Rivers, 20% to Urban Green Space, and 10% to Acquisition of Development Rights.
4. The local assistance grant subprogram provides funding for the acquisition of land (including rights to land) and development of recreation areas for nature-based outdoor recreation purposes.
5. The website list of significant Stewardship Local Assistance Programs grant characteristics include the following:
  - Application deadline is May 1, 2003
  - The State expects to rank and rate application in June 2003
  - Based on availability of funds, the awards are expected after July 2003
  - No work can be started or land acquired until an agreement is signed by the DNR
  - If a “letter of retroactivity” is not granted on acquisition projects where purchase of the property occurred before receiving the grant, those grant applications are voided
  - All grant covers up to 50% of eligible project costs. The City must match the award.
  - The website also lists eligible sources of local share as cash (can be donated by a third party), land donated by a third party (subject to limitations), grants or contributions from private individuals, foundations, organizations or business, and donated volunteer labor, services, materials, and equipment rental.

### **Fiscal Impact**

This file imposes no fiscal impact. Future legislation is required to authorize acceptance and funding of any grant monies awarded from this application.

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LRB-Fiscal Review  
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