..Number
250874

..Version
`PROPOSED SUBSTITUTE

..Reference
211799, 220562, 221904, 240557, 240813, 240787

..Sponsor
ALD. JACKSON

..Title
Substitute resolution authorizing the expenditure of opioid settlement funds.

..Analysis
This resolution appropriates up to $250,000 in settlement funds related to National Prescription Opiate litigation for review and evaluation of the City's existing opioid harm reduction programs. In addition, the resolution authorizes the expenditure of up to $1,679,792 in settlement funds for the Milwaukee Fire Department's Milwaukee Overdose Response Initiative (MORI).

..Body
Whereas, On January 29, 2020, the City of Milwaukee joined the National Prescription Opiate multidistrict litigation; and

Whereas, Common Council File Number 220562, adopted August 12, 2022, authorized City officials to accept an initial settlement payment of up to $2,000,000, and to accept future settlement disbursements arising from the same litigation of up to $18,000,000 in aggregate, into a segregated account; and

Whereas, Common Council File Numbers 221904 and 240557, adopted April 18, 2023 and July 30, 2024, respectively, authorized the proper City officials to opt into additional opioid settlements for which the City is eligible for new settling defendants in the settlement of the National Prescription Opiate multidistrict litigation in United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio Eastern Division, case no. 20-op-45044-DAP; and

Whereas, The City has received settlement payments totaling approximately $12.7 million to date; and

Whereas, Common Council File Number 211799, adopted March 22, 2022, directed that settlement funds received in the opioid litigation be used to fund the Milwaukee Overdose Response Initiative and other harm-reduction strategies; and

Whereas, To date, the Common Council has allocated approximately $3.8 million of Opioid settlement funds towards harm reduction programs created and operated by the Milwaukee Health and Fire Departments; and

Whereas, It is essential that the Common Council act as stewards of the opioid settlement funds the City has, and will continue to receive, ensuring that programs have measureable results that demonstrate a positive impact combating the opioid crisis; and

Whereas, Setting aside opioid settlement funds to hire a reputable evaluator for the City's opioid harm reduction programs would help the City understand the strengths and weaknesses of it current programs and inform how unallocated funds may best be spent going forward; and

Whereas, Common Council File 240787, adopted November 11, 2024, allocated $1,845,026 to the Milwaukee Fire Department for their Milwaukee Overdose Response Initiative; and

Whereas, According to the Fire Department, an additional $1,679,792 is required to fund MORI through the end of 2026; and

Whereas, Common Council File Number 240813 transfers settlement funds from the General Fund to the Special Revenue Fund -Settlement Fund and establishes a parent project account within the Special Revenue Fund -Settlement Fund from which funds may be appropriated to City departments through Common Council action; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee, that the Comptroller is authorized to:

1. Commit funds within the Project Parent of the 2026 Special Revenue-Settlement Fund, the following amounts for the project titled Review and Evaluation of City Opioid Harm Reduction Programs:

Project OP0002400000
Fund 0180
Org 9990
Program 0001
Budget Year 0000
Subclass R999
Account 000600
Project Grantor Share
Amount $250,000

2. Commit funds within the Project Parent of the 2026 Special Revenue-Settlement Fund, the following amounts for the project titled Milwaukee Overdose Response Initiative:

Project OP0002400000
Fund 0180
Org 9990
Program 0001
Budget Year 0000
Subclass R999
Account 000600
Project Grantor Share
Amount $1,679,792

; and, be it

Further Resolved, That the City Comptroller is authorized and directed to establish the necessary accounts and accounting procedures to carry out the intent of this resolution; and, be it

Further Resolved, That the Comptroller shall not sign any agency agreement that uses funds from the Settlement Fund as authorized by this resolution unless first referred to the City Clerk for signature as to compliance with the terms of this resolution.

..Requestor

..Drafter
LRB 181451-4
Christopher Hillard
4/9/2026