

July 15, 2005

To the Public Improvements Committee:

Dear Honorable Members:

The attached substitute resolution authorizes the Commissioner of Public Works to fund a portion of a pilot downspout disconnection project by the South Shore Park Watch. The project will include disconnection of downspouts and installation of rain barrels and education on the use of rain gardens to reduce the amount of stormwater from entering the combined sewer system. The remaining cost portion of the pilot project is being funded by the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD). The attached resolution also authorizes the Commissioner of Public Works to fund a portion of an Urban Storm Trees program by the Environmental Services Section. The project will include a rain garden and bio-swales to reduce the quantity of parking lot runoff entering the combined sewer system.

The resolution directs the Comptroller to transfer funds for the two projects, partially restoring original borrowing authority established in the 2005 Sewer Maintenance Fund budget for flow reduction projects. The original borrowing authority was removed by this Committee due to the Department receiving additional revenue from the MMSD through grants to fund portions of two flow reduction projects. While the resolution restores a portion of the original borrowing authority, it does not increase the amount of borrowing authority above the amount established in the approved 2005 Sewer Maintenance Fund budget.

Your favorable consideration of the resolution is respectfully requested.

Very truly yours,

Jeffrey S. Polenske
City Engineer

TJT:kf

Attachment

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