



L A K E
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F R I E N D S

October 31, 2018

Tim Askin, Senior Planner
Milwaukee Historic Preservation Commission
841 N. Broadway, Room B-1
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Subject: Lake Park Rustic Wooden Bridge Restoration

Dear Tim,

On October 2, 2018, Lake Park Friends (LPF) submitted to the City of Milwaukee Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) an application for a Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) to demolish and re-build a rustic wooden bridge in Lake Park. The purpose of this letter is to provide you with additional information about funding for this project as well as about the bridge's current condition.

For the past year, LPF has been fundraising for this bridge restoration project. To date, we have raised approximately \$67,000. Bridge replacement estimates range between \$100,000 and \$225,000. We anticipate receipt of the final estimates prior to November 5, 2018, after which we can raise the additional funds needed for its replacement.

In the meantime, the bridge's condition is unsafe. We submit the attached photographs to demonstrate the bridge's deteriorated state. The timber columns and the beams, which span between the columns, are in very poor condition or rotted. As a result, the deck drops to the south and the entire bridge tilts to the west. At both ends of the Bridge, the walking paths slope towards the bridge, which is putting pressure on and undermining the piers and grade beams. Because it is dangerous, Milwaukee County closed the bridge in 2016. However, people frequently hop over the barriers and cross the bridge, increasing the safety hazards.

We hope this additional information is sufficient for the Commission to grant the COA for bridge demolition. Please feel free to contact me at ckreilly@outlook.com or via phone at 414.202.5730 if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

Colleen Reilly, PMP
President
Lake Park Friends

Attachments: Photographs

Cc:
Sarah Toomsen, Milwaukee County
Guy Smith, Milwaukee County

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