

LRB – FISCAL REVIEW SECTION ANALYSIS

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE

ITEM 22, FILE 020400

JULY 3, 2002

ANGELYN WARD

File #020400 is a resolution relative to the application, acceptance and funding of a Wisconsin Department of Transportation Harbor Assistance Grant for the Port of Milwaukee in connection with a Ferry/Passenger Ship Terminal & Pier Improvement Project and related work.

Background and Discussion

1. This resolution authorizes the Port of Milwaukee to apply for, accept and fund a Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WISDOT) Harbor Assistance Grant in connection with the Ferry-Passenger Ship Terminal and related work. The WISDOT provides funds to local units of government for harbor-related work of benefit to commercial transportation.
2. This project was part of File #011491, approved by the Common Council March 5, 2002, where the Port submitted a Three-Year Harbor Development Statement of Intentions for 2002 – 2005 to WISDOT for planning purposes in order to become eligible for future grants under the Harbor Assistance Program.
3. If the grant is approved, the department plans the following:
 - Site improvement involving grading, paving, sewer and water
 - Building a ferry/passenger-ship terminal, loading ramp and bridge that adjusts to the water level
 - Dredging and berth improvements
4. The tentative schedule for the project includes filing application with State by August 1, 2002 (deadline); approval of the grant by the State in November, 2002; design and bid for the improvements in early 2003; and begin construction in spring 2003, with completion is estimated by February 2004.
5. Vessel operation is tentatively scheduled for spring 2004. Renting of the ferry/passenger-ship terminal to a ferry operator is still being negotiated.

Fiscal Impact

1. The total WISDOT Harbor Assistance Grant is \$2,500,00, funded by:
 - Grantor share: \$2,000,000 (80%)
 - City share: \$ 500,000 (20%)
2. In the Port's 2002 Capital Budget as Pier, Berth & Channel Improvements, is used as matching funds for WISDOT grants. Generally, the grants provide 80% of the funding with the remaining 20% provided by the City.

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