



Legislation Text

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971247
ORIGINAL

THE CHAIR

Resolution supporting nomination of the Milwaukee River basin for designation by the federal government as an American Heritage River.
(DPW)
- ANALYSIS -

This resolution places the City of Milwaukee Common Council on record as supporting nomination of the Milwaukee River basin to be designated as an American Heritage River. The Milwaukee River Revitalization Council will formally sponsor the nomination. Such designation would be under a new federal program established by Executive Order of President Clinton in early 1997 and could lead to federal assistance with ongoing efforts aimed at economic and environmental revitalization of the river and adjacent lands.

Whereas, President Clinton has established by Executive Order the American Heritage Rivers program; and

Whereas, This program is intended to recognize and support local efforts aimed at economic revitalization, environmental protection, and cultural and historic preservation along the nation's rivers; and

Whereas, The City of Milwaukee has supported and continues to support many projects and programs along the Milwaukee River which are designed to achieve these objectives; and

Whereas, These projects and programs include:

- (1) local participation in removal of the North Avenue dam to restore the river's natural flow and to promote regeneration of native fish species and wetland habitats,
- (2) a partnership with local business and property owners to fund and construct a new riverwalk through the heart of downtown Milwaukee,
- (3) funding for purchase and operation of new equipment to clean floating debris from the river so that such debris does not enter Lake Michigan,
- (4) establishment of several local historic districts along the river corridor in order to protect historic buildings and to encourage their rehabilitation,
- (5) support for various ethnic festivals and cultural events that use the Milwaukee River riverwalk as their setting; and

Whereas, Designation of the Milwaukee River basin as an American Heritage River would represent meaningful recognition of the efforts of the City and many other parties to revitalize the Milwaukee River; and

Whereas, Designation could stimulate additional revitalization efforts through coordinated application of existing federal resources toward such efforts; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee that the Common Council hereby endorses and supports nomination by the Milwaukee River Revitalization Council of the Milwaukee River to be formally designated as an American Heritage River.

DPW
THM:mr
11/20/97
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