



MILWAUKEE COUNTY EXECUTIVE SCOTT WALKER

Department of Administrative Services
Cynthia Archer, Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SETTING RECORD STRAIGHT ON “MISSING” STIMULUS FUNDING

MILWAUKEE – In reference to Supervisor Theodore Lipscomb’s news conference today, Department of Administrative Services Director Cynthia Archer clarified that there are no inconsistencies in stimulus lists issued by the administration.

Archer further noted that the list provided by the county executive last week was issued to give an overview of the large amount of funding that all was already applied for or approved. \$27.9 million of the \$32.6 million noted by the supervisor was part of that list. The Department of Administrative Services continually monitors the ever-changing federal stimulus regulations to provide updates on eligible projects. Some cited by the supervisor are formula grants - federal funds distributed to the state that are then allocated to county programs and projects based on various factors such as transit, population, and poverty statistics.

The \$2.5 million funding for General Mitchell International Airport’s runway safety areas was not omitted. Funding for the runway safety area project was originally to be provided through the already-established FAA Airport Improvement Program (AIP) funding process, prior to the announcement of any federal stimulus program. The FAA subsequently notified the county that the FAA received stimulus funding for Wisconsin airport projects and would allocate \$2.5 million to the runway safety area project in place of the traditional AIP funding. The project met the federal requirements as shovel-ready as it is set to begin this spring.

Byrne Justice Assistance Grant funding does not require an application and is allocated every year, the last two years in a 45% - 55% split between the county and the City of Milwaukee. It would be premature to include a figure when Milwaukee County’s share of the \$6.3 million has yet to be determined. The Sheriff, District Attorney, Chief Judge and County Executive are working to make sure Milwaukee County is fairly treated when these funds are dispersed.

The Energy Efficiency block grants also fall under formula funding. Milwaukee County receives grants in this category on an on-going basis and the stimulus application is currently under review.

The Estabrook Dam may be eligible to receive coastal management funding to repair or demolish. The county board needs to make a policy determination on which course they want to take.

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