



Milwaukee County

Supervisor Gerry Broderick, 3rd District

Supervisor Christopher Larson, 14th District

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For Immediate Release

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PARKS COMMITTEE APPROVES ADVISORY REFERENDUM FOR PROPERTY TAX RELIEF IN MILWAUKEE COUNTY

Tax shift would lower taxes for Milwaukee County residents, collect small amount from visitors

Milwaukee, WI – The Milwaukee County Parks, Energy and Environment Committee voted this morning to advance an advisory referendum on providing property tax relief by shifting parks funding to a small increase in the sales tax. Last month, the Milwaukee County Parks Advisory Commission, which provides policy and funding guidance to the County Board regarding County Parks, voted unanimously to recommend the referendum to preserve parks funding while providing property tax relief to Milwaukee County residents.

On a 5-2 vote, the Committee voted to advance an advisory referendum on whether to lower property taxes and shift parks funding to a one-half of one percent sales and use tax in Milwaukee County.

“Our goal is to reduce the property tax burden in Milwaukee County, while shoring up funding for parks, recreation and culture,” said Supervisor Gerry Broderick, Chairman of the Parks Committee. “Under this scenario, the owner of a Milwaukee home assessed at \$150,000 would pay approximately \$75 less in property taxes.”

“Milwaukee County residents can experience property tax relief by shifting these costs to a sales tax, which would be partly paid by visitors to Milwaukee County who enjoy the County’s amenities but do not pay property taxes,” said Supervisor Christopher Larson. “About one-third of the County’s sales tax collections come from people who live outside Milwaukee County.”

The full County Board will consider the referendum at its next meeting at 9:30 a.m. on June 26th in Room 200 of the Milwaukee County Courthouse.