

FACT SHEET ON O'DONNELL PARK AND COUNTY-WIDE INSPECTIONS

Maintenance work on park structure at O'Donnell Park was done prior to June 24, 2010

A June 25, 2010 memo from Parks Director Sue Black (see attached) shows that all of the maintenance issues that were identified as "currently critical", "potentially critical" or necessary, but not yet critical" was done prior to June 24, 2010. The memo goes on to note that none of the projects related to the façade of the structure.

County made major investments in maintenance, replacement and construction costs

The County spent and budgeted \$730 million worth of capital projects from 2002 through the 2010 budget. (The first few capital budgets were lower because as they did not include major new construction projects as the County Executive put a moratorium on new buildings so the county could fix existing structures).

Public safety a priority for Milwaukee County

When engineers identified safety concerns about the annex parking structure next to courthouse, the County Executive successfully pushed a plan to take it down as part of the Marquette Interchange project.

In the interest of assuring the public that all county structures are safe, a countywide inspection of structures was requested by County Board Chairman Lee Holloway. Structural engineers for the county recommended an accelerated process with a local firm (Graef-USA) that was familiar with county structures.

That recommendation was given to the Director of Transportation and Public Works Jack Takerian. He approved the idea and mentioned it to the County Executive who then shared with the office of the County Board Chairman. The Chairman and the County Executive approved of the idea and jointly announced the inspection plan.

Milwaukee County-based Graef-USA contracted with 10 local firms to assist in the inspection of the more than 100 county structures. This is the same firm that the state Department of Transportation just awarded a no-bid contract to for work on the Hoan Bridge (because of their experience and expertise).

County Board briefed on process and information

The leadership of the County Board was briefed on numerous occasions about the status of the parking structure and on the inspections of other county buildings.

The Director of the Department of Transportation and Public Works prepared a full written report on the process used to put in place inspection teams. The report was given to the Chairman of the County Board (*see attached*).

The full County Board is set to meet on the matter on Thursday, July 29, 2010 (*see attached*). The Chairman of the County Board scheduled the meeting.

The offices of the District Attorney and the Sheriff still have open investigations

The District Attorney and the Sheriff are elected independently from the county (as defined by the Wisconsin Constitution) as Democrat office holders. They have specific legal authority – as defined by the state constitution and state statutes – to conduct investigations. County staff will continue to act with caution so as not to interfere with the independent investigation being conducted by the offices of the District Attorney and Sheriff.