

Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors Supervisor Martin Weddle, District 5

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COUNTY BOARD APPROVES WEDDLE AMENDMENTS TO IMPROVE WASHINGTON PARK

Band Shell, West Baseball Field to Get Repairs, Amenities

The Washington Park band shell and the west baseball field will get improvements in 2016 under an amendment proposed by Supervisor Martin Weddle and approved by the Milwaukee County Board in its 2016 amended budget.

The band shell is in need of extensive repairs and maintenance that will include replacement of boilers and heaters, maintenance to the stage, new lighting, painting and repair of the restrooms. The baseball field will get improvements, and the measure will also include new bike racks to make the park more bike friendly.

"Washington Park is one of the most beautiful and centrally located parks in Milwaukee County," said Weddle. "It is heavily used and is the center of culture, family gatherings and sports. Unfortunately, the band shell has fallen into disrepair due to years of deferred maintenance. This amendment will help restore the luster to the band shell and make the park more bike friendly with new bike racks.

"In addition, the west baseball diamond is in great need of repair and as a result is hardly used. The improvements will help establish a diamond for a high quality of play. The repairs funded by this amendment will not only ensure a better playing field, it will help prevent injuries to players."

Weddle said the band shell has long been a part of the community with performances by diverse musical and theatrical groups. The amendment provides \$738,000 in funding for the repair and refurbishment of the band shell and \$175,000 for the replacement of the boiler and heaters. The amendment also provides \$210,000 for the refurbishment of the west baseball diamond

"The band shell and baseball are important parts of summer," Weddle said. "We can't let our parks fall into disrepair, and this amendment will ensure that Washington Park remains an enjoyable place for all Milwaukee County residents."

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