



COUNTY OF KENOSHA

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News release

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Kenosha County receives state grant to study shoreline protection at Kemper Center

KENOSHA – The state has awarded the Kenosha County Division of Parks nearly \$50,000 in Coastal Management Program funding to study Lake Michigan shoreline protection needs at Kemper Center.

The funds will go toward completion of a coastal engineering study to develop strategies to improve access to the Kemper Center shoreline. Funds will be used to advance shoreline protection designs, complete plans and generate specifications for the work.

This represents the second phase of a planning process that previously included an analysis of possible shoreline stabilization concepts conducted by private consultants on behalf of the county.

“As we saw again recently with the strong waves that pounded the lakeshore last month, protecting our shoreline is a need of the utmost importance,” Kenosha County Executive Jim Kreuser said. “I’m pleased we’ll be able to use these state funds to advance that process.”

The \$48,592 award from the state is a 50-50 match, requiring the county to allocate an equal amount for the project. It was part of \$1.2 million in Coastal Management Program grants that Gov. Scott Walker announced across the state earlier this week.

Kemper Center, a 15-acre county park located at 6501 Third Ave. in Kenosha, has felt the effects of erosion in recent years.

The property’s stone revetment, bike path and park grounds were damaged during major storm events in 2015 and 2016. Severe wave overtopping during storms has caused localized flooding on the bike path and damage to landscaping.

“This grant award better aids toward the necessary long-term repairs along Kemper Center’s shoreline,” said Kenosha County Parks Director Matthew Collins. “Having the necessary

funds to complete construction documents puts Kenosha County in a premier spot for future grant opportunities and funding sources.”

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