# COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

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| CITY OF DES MOINES CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE | Number: | **26-086** | Meeting: | **March 9, 2026** |
| | Agenda Item: | **34** | Roll Call: | **26-0318** |
| | Submitted by: | **Jonathan A. Gano, P.E., Public Works Director** | | |

**AGENDA HEADING:**

Approving the Iowa Department of Natural Resources Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) Urban Forestry Development Grant application for urban forestry initiatives in an amount not to exceed $50,000.

**SYNOPSIS:**

The Public Works Department – Forestry Division seeks authorization to submit an application to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) for the Urban Forestry Development Grant, funded through the USDA Forest Service's IRA, in an amount not to exceed $50,000.

The Urban Forestry Development Grant is a competitive, reimbursable, non-match grant program administered by IDNR to support eligible urban forestry initiatives. The two-year program (2026–2027) allows for projects such as community forestry planning, City tree ordinance development or revision, workforce development, educational programming, and other related urban forestry efforts.

If awarded, funding would support priority urban forestry initiatives within the City of Des Moines consistent with City canopy goals, sustainability objectives, and long-term tree management strategies.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Amount: $50,000 (Reimbursable)

Funding Source: To be determined upon award

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

- If awarded, project activities would occur during the 2026–2027 program period in accordance with grant requirements.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE**

**BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE**

**ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:**

- Upon council approval, staff will finalize and execute the grant agreement and proceed with tree planting activities in accordance with the grant requirements. Staff will submit reimbursement requests to IDNR and manage all reporting and compliance obligations associated with the grant.

For more information on this and other agenda items, please call the City Clerk's Office at 515-283-4209 or visit the Clerk's Office on the first floor of City Hall, 400 Robert D Ray Drive. Council agendas are available to the public at the City Clerk's Office on Thursday afternoon preceding Monday's Council meeting. Citizens can also request to receive meeting notices and agendas by email by calling the Clerk's Office or sending their request via email to cityclerk@dmgov.org.