


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

 CITY OF DES MOINES CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE	Number:	26-099	Meeting:	March 23, 2026
	Agenda Item:	25	Roll Call:	26-0378
	Submitted by:	Jonathan A. Gano, P.E., Public Works Director		

AGENDA HEADING:

Authorizing the Public Works Department, Forestry Division to sign and submit applications for grants and other funding opportunities related to urban forestry.

SYNOPSIS:

This action authorizes the Public Works Director or their designee within the Forestry Division to sign and submit applications for grants or other giving programs related to urban forestry purposes on behalf of the City of Des Moines.

This authorization is limited to grant applications requesting \$100,000 or less and that do not require a local cash match, in-kind match, or other financial obligation to the City.

Any grant application exceeding \$100,000 or requiring a financial commitment from the City would require separate City Council approval prior to submission.

This authorization will allow staff to more efficiently pursue funding opportunities to support tree planting, urban canopy expansion, and other urban forestry initiatives while meeting grant application deadlines.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: None

Funding Source: Not applicable. This action only authorizes submission of grant applications and does not authorize acceptance of grant funds.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- The Public Works Department, Forestry Division regularly pursues grant opportunities offered by state agencies, federal programs, nonprofit organizations, and private foundations to support urban forestry initiatives.
- These funding opportunities often have short application timelines. Authorizing staff to submit grant applications for funding amounts of \$100,000 or less that do not require matching funds will allow the City to pursue additional resources to support urban tree planting, canopy preservation, and urban forest management efforts without delaying application deadlines.

- Any acceptance of grant funding or execution of grant agreements will still require separate City Council approval.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

- If grant applications submitted under this authorization are successful, staff will return to City Council for approval to accept funding and execute any associated grant agreements.

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 second floor of T.M. Franklin Cowrie City Administration Building, 1200 Locust Street. 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.