



Roll Call Number

25-0888

Agenda Item Number

9

Date June 30, 2025

**APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AGREEMENT WITH
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES FOR THE FEDERAL LAND AND WATER
CONSERVATION FUND PROGRAM FOR BIRDLAND PARK IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT,
AND AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO NEGOTIATE
SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENT**

WHEREAS, the City of Des Moines Parks and Recreation Department desires to implement Phase 1 and portions of Phase 3, 4 and Phase 5 of the Birdland Park and Marina Master Plan at Birdland Park and Marina, located at 2100 Saylor Road, Des Moines, Polk County, Iowa, for the enjoyment of the residents of Des Moines and the State of Iowa pursuant to this Project, at a total estimated construction cost of \$14,560,473; and

WHEREAS, the Project includes a nature-themed playscape including an ADA-inclusive playground and skating ribbon, the construction of a new water trail access point and associated parking improvements for recreational users of all abilities to easily enter and exit the river, multiple open-air shelters to support family and neighborhood gatherings, the construction of a restroom and concessionaire building, streambank improvements to limit erosion and enhance flood resilience, the construction of an exterior deck on the Ding Darling enclosed shelter to better support community events, elevating a segment of the Neal Smith National Recreation Trail (American Discovery Trail) to enhance flood resilience, development of a new powerboat ramp and associated parking area to relieve traffic congestion and circulation conflicts, pedestrian crossing improvements for increased safety, planting of native trees, shrubs, and prairie vegetation to broadly support water quality and urban wildlife habitat, installation of park user amenities including LED lighting, benches, and bike racks; and

WHEREAS, on May 8, 2023, by Roll Call No. 23-0653, the City Council ratified submission by the Parks and Recreation Department of a \$5,291,000.00 grant application to the National Park Service (NPS) Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) for financial assistance for the development of the Project; and

WHEREAS, said application was further submitted by the Parks and Recreation Department as a cooperative effort with Iowa Confluence Water Trails (ICON); and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Department has received a grant and grant agreement, on file in the office of the City Clerk, from the National Park Service (NPS) Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) for financial assistance for the Project, to be administered by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources in the amount of \$5,379,465.00 (above the originally requested grant amount); and

WHEREAS, of said grant funding, the amount of \$1,400,000.00 has been designated by the City for reimbursement to ICON for construction of the ICON Water Trail Improvements at Birdland Park portion (Site #3) of the Project; and



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WHEREAS, the City Manager, through the Parks and Recreation Department, intends to negotiate the terms of the subrecipient grant for the construction of the ICON Water Trail Improvements at Birdland Park portion (Site #3) of the Project, which terms shall be included in a subrecipient agreement or amendment to existing agreement(s) between the City and ICON to be submitted to the City Council for consideration.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Des Moines, Iowa, that:

1. The Project Grant Agreement No. 19-01387 between the City of Des Moines and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, for a National Park Service Land and Water Conservation Fund for the Birdland Park Improvements Project in the amount of \$5,379,465.00, is hereby approved as to form and content, and the Mayor and City Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute and attest, respectively, said Agreement for and on behalf of the City of Des Moines, Iowa; and the Parks and Recreation Department Director is authorized and directed to administer and monitor said Agreement on behalf of the City.
2. The City Manager is authorized and directed to negotiate a subrecipient agreement(s) with ICON, either in the form of an agreement(s) or amendment(s) to existing agreement, for construction of the ICON Water Trail Improvements at Birdland Park portion (Site #3) of the Project at a total reimbursed cost of \$1,400,000.00 of the Project grant amount, and to submit said subrecipient agreement(s) to the City Council for consideration and approval.

(Council Communication No. 25-254)

Moved by Gatto to adopt.

Second by Voss.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

/s/ Glenna K. Frank

Glenna K. Frank

Assistant City Attorney

COUNCIL ACTION	YEAS	NAYS	PASS	ABSENT
BOESEN	✓			
COLEMAN	✓			
GATTO	✓			
MANDELBAUM	✓			
SIMONSON	✓			
VOSS	✓			
WESTERGAARD	✓			
TOTAL	7			
MOTION CARRIED		APPROVED		

CERTIFICATE

I, LAURA BAUMGARTNER, City Clerk of said City hereby certify that at a meeting of the City Council of said City of Des Moines, held on the above date, among other proceedings the above was adopted.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal the day and year first above written.

Connie Breen

Mayor

Laura Baumgartner

City Clerk