



Roll Call Number

25-1125

Agenda Item Number

25

Date August 18, 2025

**RATIFICATION OF IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES (IDNR)  
RESOURCE ENHANCEMENT AND PROTECTION (REAP) GRANT FUNDING  
APPLICATION SEEKING \$300,000 FOR BIRDLAND PARK MASTER PLAN  
PHASE 1A IMPROVEMENTS**

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Department desires to develop the Birdland Park Master Plan Phase 1A Improvements and to seek grant funding to aid in such efforts from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources; and

WHEREAS, in order to meet the grant application deadline, the Parks and Recreation Department submitted an application to the IDNR for a Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) grant in the amount of \$300,000 as reimbursement to the City to be applied toward the cost of developing park and trail improvements along the Des Moines River within Birdland Park (Birdland Park Master Plan Phase 1A Improvements or Project); and

WHEREAS, the Project includes elevating and reconstructing a segment of the Neal Smith Trail to reduce flooding, a trail spur connection up to 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, two open-air shelters with user amenities, three dedicated fishing areas with two being ADA-accessible, ADA-compliant ingress and egress pathways, power boat ramp and associated parking, ADA-inclusive courtesy dock, storm sewer, stormwater management best management practices (BMPs), natural resources improvements, and shoreline improvements to include reshaping and armoring; and

WHEREAS, the Project will provide nature-oriented public outdoor recreation facilities at a developing regional park located in north-central Des Moines, and the proposed improvements are expected to greatly improve flood resiliency, better meet the expressed outdoor recreation needs of the city residents improve public safety by resolving circulation conflicts and redeveloping the boat ramp with modern design principles, and improve wildlife habitat and water quality as a result of the included natural resources improvements; and

WHEREAS, the REAP grant application requires that the City Council provide certain authorizations and certification when making application for such grant, as described below.

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

1. The City Council hereby certifies that it has reviewed the proposed Project and approved its submittal for Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) grant consideration.
2. The grant application submitted by the Parks and Recreation Department to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources to seek Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) grant financial assistance in the amount of \$300,000 for the Project is hereby approved and ratified and the Parks and Recreation Department is authorized to have made such application on behalf of



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the City of Des Moines, including assurances regarding City compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1975, Title II of the American with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and the Iowa Civil Rights Act of 1965 and all associated regulations, guidance documents, and other related requirements imposed by federal or state law or the IDNR related to the Project and to immediately take any and all measures necessary to effectuate such laws and shall not allow any person to be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise subject to discrimination under the Project.

3. The Director of Parks and Recreation is hereby authorized to execute any necessary certification on behalf of the City for such REAP grant application.
4. The City hereby affirms its intention to complete said Project outlined in the Project proposal in the grant application.

(Council Communication No. 25-314)

Moved by Voss to adopt.  
Second by Simonson.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

/s/ Glenna K. Frank  
Glenna Frank  
Deputy City Attorney

COUNCIL ACTION	YEAS	NAYS	PASS	ABSENT
BOESEN	✓			
COLEMAN	✓			
GATTO				✓
MANDELBAUM	✓			
SIMONSON	✓			
VOSS	✓			
WESTERGAARD	✓			
TOTAL	6			1
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 Boren Mayor

Laura Baumgartner City Clerk

