



Roll Call Number

25-1689

Agenda Item Number

26

Date December 22, 2025

**AUTHORIZING NEGOTIATION AND EXECUTION OF SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENTS
WITH IOWA CONFLUENCE WATER TRAILS
FOR ICON WATER TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS AT BIRDLAND PARK**

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

WHEREAS, on June 30, 2025, by Roll Call No. 25-0888, the City Council approved a Project Grant Agreement No. 19-01387 between the City and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) for a National Park Service Land and Water Conservation Fund for the Birdland Park Improvements Project (“LWCF-ORLP Grant Agreement”) in the total grant amount of \$5,379,465.00, above the originally requested grant amount, and further authorized and directed the City Manager to negotiate a subrecipient agreement with ICON for construction of the ICON Water Trail Improvements at Birdland Park (Site #3) portion of the Project (“ICON Project”) at a total reimbursed cost of \$1,400,000.00 of the total Project grant amount, and to submit said subrecipient agreement to the City Council for consideration and approval; and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Department further submitted an application, in coordination with ICON, to the Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) through IEDA’S Community Attraction and Tourism (CAT) Program as part of the City’s Project; and

WHEREAS, on September 8, 2025, by Roll Call No. 25-1224, the City Council authorized and directed the City Manager to negotiate and execute a Community Attraction and Tourism Grant Agreement with IEDA and ICON (“CAT Agreement”) for a total grant amount of \$1,000,000.00 to be split evenly between the City and ICON; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager and Parks and Recreation Department staff are negotiating subrecipient agreements with ICON whereby the City will administer and monitor compliance by ICON with the LWCF-ORLP Agreement and the



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CAT Agreement, including but not limited to processing reimbursement requests and payments to ICON of ICON's share of the grant amount for each State grant.

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

1. The City Manager is authorized and directed to finalize negotiations of subrecipient agreements with ICON for construction of the ICON Project at a total reimbursed cost of \$1,400,000.00 of the LWCF-ORLP grant amount, and at a total reimbursed cost of \$500,000.00 of the CAT grant amount.
2. Following negotiations and approval as to form of each subrecipient agreement by the Legal Department, the Mayor and City Clerk are authorized and directed to sign and attest, respectively, the LWCF-ORLP subrecipient agreement between the City and ICON and the CAT subrecipient agreement between the City and ICON.
3. The City Manager, Parks and Recreation Department Director, and City Engineer, and their designated staff, are authorized to take action on behalf of the City in accordance with the terms of the subrecipient agreements.
4. The Parks and Recreation Department Director and City Engineer, and their designees, are directed to administer and monitor compliance with the subrecipient agreements.

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

Connie Boesen

Mayor

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.

Laura Baumgartner

City Clerk