



Roll Call Number

26-0098

Agenda Item Number

9C

Date January 26, 2026

**APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL
RESOURCES (IDNR) RESOURCE ENHANCEMENT AND PROTECTION (REAP)
GRANT AGREEMENT FOR BIRDLAND PARK MASTER PLAN – PHASE 1A IMPROVEMENTS**

WHEREAS, the City of Des Moines Parks and Recreation Department desires to develop park and trail improvements along the Des Moines River within Birdland Park as part of the Birdland Park Master Plan Phase 1A Project; and

WHEREAS, the Project includes elevating and constructing a segment of the Neal Smith Trail to reduce flooding, a trail spur connection up to 2nd 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 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 improvement; and

WHEREAS, on August 18, 2025, by Roll Call No. 25-1125, the City Council ratified the Parks and Recreation Department's grant application to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) Fund for financial assistance in the amount of \$300,000.00 as reimbursement for the development of the Project, and further provided the authorizations and certifications required in the grant application; and

WHEREAS, the IDNR has awarded the City the amount of \$300,000.00 as requested in the grant application, subject to approval of and compliance with the REAP Grant Agreement-Development No. 26-R4-NR on file in the office of the City Clerk.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Des Moines, Iowa, that the Resource Enhancement and Protection Fund Grant Agreement-Development No. 26-R4-NR, between the City and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources and as further described above, is hereby approved; the Mayor is authorized to sign said Agreement on behalf of the City; and the City Parks and Recreation Department Director and designee(s) are authorized and directed to administer and monitor said Agreement.

(Council Communication No. 26-023)

Moved by Gatto to adopt



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Approved as to Form:

/s/ Cassie A. Bonefas

Cassie A. Bonefas

Assistant City Attorney

Second by

Voss

COUNCIL ACTION	YEAS	NAYS	PASS	ABSENT
BOESEN	✓			
SIMONSON	✓			
VOSS	✓			
BARRON	✓			
WESTERGAARD	✓			
MANDELBAUM	✓			
GATTO	✓			
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