



Roll Call Number

26-0254

Agenda Item Number

36

Date February 23, 2026

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION TO PRAIRIE MEADOWS
COMMUNITY BETTERMENT PROGRAM FOR ENHANCED SPECIALIZED
COMMUNICATION FOR REGIONAL WATER, TECHNICAL RESCUE, AND
HAZMAT OPERATIONS**

WHEREAS, the ICON Water Trails project throughout the City of Des Moines and Central Iowa Region is being developed with several trailheads within the City opening or nearing completion; and

WHEREAS, completion of the ICON Water Trails is expected to bring thousands of residents and tourists into the water which is expected to increase the need for water-related service calls to the City's Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, cities with comparable water parks have seen an increase of 1,000% for water-related service calls; and

WHEREAS, in anticipatory response to this increased need for water-related rescue services, the City's Fire Department seeks to implement a "Rescue Swimmer" program; and

WHEREAS, due to unique circumstances faced by rescue swimmers, including boat engine noise, whitewater and river noise, and other "dead zones", rescue swimmers are unable to communicate with ground or boat teams once they enter the water unless the City's current communication infrastructure is upgraded; and

WHEREAS, the Fire Department has identified a communication system that would provide the functionality required to implement the rescue swimmer program; and

WHEREAS, City Staff have identified a source of potential funding for this communications system through the Prairie Meadows Community Betterment Program; and

WHEREAS, in order to be eligible for such grant funding, an application must be submitted not later than February 27, 2026; and

WHEREAS, City Staff have prepared an application for the Prairie Meadows Community Betterment Program grant in form attached hereto and 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:



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1. The grant application prepared by the Fire Department to Prairie Meadows seeking funding for the above-described communications system is hereby endorsed and approved, and the City Manager or his designee are hereby authorized and direct to execute and submit such application on behalf of the City of Des Moines.
2. The City Manager, or his designee, are hereby authorized to submit any additional documentation or provide any additional information as required to finalize the City's application.
3. In the event the Prairie Meadows Community Betterment Grant is awarded to the City for this project, the City Manager or his designee is hereby authorized to execute any agreements related to such grant as necessary.

(Council Communication No. 26-071)

Moved by Gatto to adopt. Second by Voss.

Approved as to Form:

/s/ Gary D. Goudelock Jr.
Gary D. Goudelock Jr.
Assistant City Attorney

COUNCIL ACTION	YEAS	NAYS	PASS	ABSENT
BOESEN	✓			
SIMONSON	✓			
VOSS	✓			
BARRON	✓			
WESTERGAARD	✓			
MANDELBAUM	✓			
GATTO	✓			
TOTAL	7			

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVED

Connie Bauer

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