

Council Agenda Item 26-0455R



MEETING DATE: 5/26/26

SUBJECT/TITLE: Resolution authorizing an agreement with the Duluth Climbers Coalition for the operation and maintenance of ice farming infrastructure at Quarry Park.

SUBMITTED BY: Jessica Peterson

RECOMMENDATION: Approve

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: N/A

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION:

20-0472R – Resolution authorizing a development and operation agreement with the Duluth Climbers Coalition for the construction, operation, and maintenance of ice farming infrastructure at Quarry Park.

23-0302R – Resolution authorizing a first amendment to development and operation agreement with the Duluth Climbers Coalition extending the term of the agreement through May 31, 2026.

BACKGROUND: This agreement is a renewal of the previous agreement with Duluth Climbers Coalition (DCC). The previous agreement included development and construction of ice farming infrastructure at Quarry Park. Now that the infrastructure is in place, this renewal continues the operations and maintenance of the ice farming infrastructure at Quarry Park by DCC.

The concentration of natural ice formations at Quarry Park attracts climbers from throughout the Midwest and beyond. DCC desires to continue enhancing Quarry Park for visitors and residents by operating and maintaining an ice farming system that helps to provide consistent ice and increases the climbing possibilities for beginner and intermediate climbers. Ice farming is the process of supplementing the natural water already seeping between the soil and bedrock at the top of the quarry wall with the goal of generating additional ice on the cliffs below.

BUDGET/FISCAL IMPACT: Under the terms of this agreement, DCC will continue to be responsible for all maintenance, operations, and utility costs associated with the ice farming infrastructure at Quarry Park. The City will continue to be responsible for maintaining a water service line to the pump house in good condition.

OPTIONS: Approve or deny approval

NECESSARY ACTION: Approve

ATTACHMENTS: Exhibit A – DCC Agreement

Cover Memo for Duluth Climbers Coalition Agreement