

STATE OF MINNESOTA GRANT CONTRACT AGREEMENT

This grant contract agreement is between the State of Minnesota, acting through its Commissioner of Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155 ("STATE") and City of Duluth, 411 West First Street, Duluth MN 55802 ("GRANTEE").

Recitals

1. Under Minn. Stat. §84.026, §84.085, Subd. 1, [HF 3911, Subdivision 19](#) the State is empowered to enter into this grant contract agreement.
2. The State is in need of Urban and Community Forestry services.
3. The Grantee represents that it is duly qualified and agrees to perform all services described in this grant contract agreement to the satisfaction of the State. Pursuant to [Minn.Stat. §16B.98](#), Subd.1, the Grantee agrees to minimize administrative costs as a condition of this grant contract agreement.

Grant Contract Agreement

1 Term of Grant Contract Agreement

1.1 *Effective date:*

May 21, 2025, notwithstanding [Minn. Stat. §16B.98](#), Subd. 5, the grantee submitted and the State approved a work plan and budget whose expenditures can be reimbursed as of the effective date of this grant agreement pursuant to [Minn. Stat. §16B.98](#), Subd. 11. Per [Minn. Stat. §16B.98](#) Subd. 7, no payments will be made to the Grantee until this grant contract agreement is fully executed.

1.2 *Expiration date:*

June 30, 2026, or until all obligations have been satisfactorily fulfilled, whichever occurs first.

1.3 *Survival of Terms.*

The following clauses survive the expiration or cancellation of this grant contract agreement: 8. Liability; 9. State Audits; 10. Government Data Practices and Intellectual Property; 12. Publicity and Endorsement; 13. Governing Law, Jurisdiction, and Venue; and 15 Data Disclosure.

2 Grantee's Duties

The Grantee, who is not a state employee, will:

Comply with required grants management policies and procedures set forth through [Minn. Stat. §16B.97](#), Subd. 4 (a) (1).

Perform the duties specified in Exhibit A which is attached and incorporated into this Grant Contract Agreement.

3 Time

The Grantee must comply with all the time requirements described in this grant contract agreement. In the performance of this grant contract agreement, time is of the essence.

4 Consideration and Payment

4.1 *Consideration.*

The State will pay for all services performed by the Grantee under this grant contract agreement as follows:

(a) *Compensation*

The Grantee will be paid on a reimbursement basis up to a maximum of \$150,000.00.

(b) *Travel Expenses*

Reimbursement for travel and subsistence expenses actually and necessarily incurred by the Grantee as a result of this grant contract agreement will not exceed \$0.00; provided that the Grantee will be reimbursed for travel and subsistence expenses in the same manner and in no greater amount than provided in the current "Commissioner's Plan" promulgated by the Commissioner of Minnesota Management and Budget (MMB). The Grantee will not be reimbursed for travel and subsistence expenses incurred outside Minnesota unless it has received the State's prior written approval for out

of state travel. Minnesota will be considered the home state for determining whether travel is out of state.

(c) Total Obligation.

The total obligation of the State for all compensation and reimbursements to the Grantee under this grant contract agreement will not exceed \$150,000.00, One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars.

4.2 Payment

(a) Invoices

The State will promptly pay the Grantee after the Grantee presents an itemized invoice for the services actually performed and the State's Authorized Representative accepts the invoiced services. Invoices must be submitted timely and according to the following schedule:

On or after September 1, 2025 with a progress update

On or after March 1st, 2026 with a progress update

On or before June 30th, 2026 with final update

(b) Unexpended Funds

The Grantee must promptly return to the State any unexpended funds that have not been accounted for annually in a financial report to the State due at grant closeout.

4.3 Contracting and Bidding Requirements

Per [Minn. Stat. §471.345](#), grantees that are municipalities as defined in Subd. 1 must follow the law.

(a) For projects that include construction work of \$25,000 or more, prevailing wage rules apply per [Minn. Stat. §§177.41](#) through [177.44](#). These rules require that the wages of laborers and workers should be comparable to wages paid for similar work in the community as a whole.

(b) The grantee must not contract with vendors who are suspended or debarred in MN:

<https://mn.gov/admin/osp/government/suspended-debarred/index2.jsp>

5 Conditions of Payment

All services provided by the Grantee under this grant contract agreement must be performed to the State's satisfaction, as determined at the sole discretion of the State's Authorized Representative and in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, rules, and regulations. The Grantee will not receive payment for work found by the State to be unsatisfactory or performed in violation of federal, state, or local law.

6 Authorized Representative

The State's Authorized Representative is Madisson Masucci; 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul MN, madisson.masucci@state.mn.us; 651-425-9196, or their successor, and has the responsibility to monitor the Grantee's performance and the authority to accept the services provided under this grant contract agreement. If the services are satisfactory, the State's Authorized Representative will certify acceptance on each invoice submitted for payment.

The Grantee's Authorized Representative is Angie Hassett, Financial Analyst, 411 West First Street, Duluth MN 55802, 218-730-5053 ahassett@duluthmn.gov. If the Grantee's Authorized Representative changes at any time during this grant contract agreement, the Grantee must immediately notify the State.

7 Assignment Amendments, Waiver, and Grant Contract Agreement Complete

7.1 Assignment

The Grantee shall neither assign nor transfer any rights or obligations under this grant contract agreement without the prior written consent of the State, approved by the same parties who executed and approved this grant contract agreement, or their successors in office.

7.2 Amendments

Any amendments to this grant contract must be in writing and will not be effective until it has been executed and approved by the same parties who executed and approved the original grant contract, or their successors in office.

7.3 Waiver

If the State fails to enforce any provision of this grant contract, that failure does not waive the provision or the State's right to enforce it.

7.4 *Grant Contract Complete*

This grant contract contains all negotiations and agreements between the State and the Grantee. No other understanding regarding this grant contract, whether written or oral, may be used to bind either party.

8 *Liability*

The Grantee must indemnify, save, and hold the State, its agents, and employees harmless from any claims or causes of action, including attorney's fees incurred by the State, arising from the performance of this grant contract by the Grantee or the Grantee's agents or employees. This clause will not be construed to bar any legal remedies the Grantee may have for the State's failure to fulfill its obligations under this grant contract.

9 *State Audits*

Under Minn. Stat. § 16B.98, Subd.8, the Grantee's books, records, documents, and accounting procedures and practices of the Grantee or other party relevant to this grant contract agreement or transaction are subject to examination by the Commissioner of Administration, by the State granting agency and/or the State Auditor or Legislative Auditor, as appropriate, for a minimum of six years from the end of this grant contract agreement, receipt and approval of all final reports, or the required period of time to satisfy all state and program retention requirements, whichever is later

10 *Government Data Practices and Intellectual Property Rights*

10.1 *Government Data Practices*

The Grantee and State must comply with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, [Minn. Stat. Ch. 13](#), as it applies to all data provided by the State under this grant contract, and as it applies to all data created, collected, received, stored, used, maintained, or disseminated by the Grantee under this grant contract. The civil remedies of [Minn. Stat. §13.08](#) apply to the release of the data referred to in this clause by either the Grantee or the State. If the Grantee receives a request to release the data referred to in this Clause, the Grantee must immediately notify the State. The State will give the Grantee instructions concerning the release of the data to the requesting party before the data is released. The Grantee's response to the request shall comply with applicable law.

10.2 *Intellectual Property Rights*

The State owns all rights, title, and interest in all of the intellectual property rights, including copyrights, patents, trade secrets, trademarks, and service marks in the Works and Documents created and paid for under this contract. If intellectual property rights are identified, the grantee must contact the DNR immediately.

11 *Workers Compensation*

The Grantee certifies that it is in compliance with [Minn. Stat. §176.181](#), Subd. 2, pertaining to workers' compensation insurance coverage. The Grantee's employees and agents will not be considered State employees. Any claims that may arise under the Minnesota Workers' Compensation Act on behalf of these employees and any claims made by any third party as a consequence of any act or omission on the part of these employees are in no way the State's obligation or responsibility.

12 *Publicity and Endorsement*

12.1 *Publicity*

Any publicity regarding the subject matter of this grant contract must identify the State as the sponsoring agency and must not be released without prior written approval from the State's Authorized Representative. For purposes of this provision, publicity includes notices, informational pamphlets, press releases, research, reports, signs, and similar public notices prepared by or for the Grantee individually or jointly with others, or any subcontractors, with respect to the program, publications, or services provided resulting from this grant contract. All projects primarily funded by state grant appropriations must publicly credit the State of

Minnesota, including on the grantee's website when practicable.

12.2 Endorsement

The Grantee must not claim that the State endorses its products or services.

13 Governing Law, Jurisdiction, and Venue

Minnesota law, without regard to its choice-of-law provisions, governs this grant contract agreement.

Venue for all legal proceedings out of this grant contract, or its breach, must be in the appropriate state or federal court with competent jurisdiction in Ramsey County, Minnesota.

14 Termination

14.1 Termination by the State

14.1 (a) Without Cause

The State may terminate this grant contract agreement without cause, upon 30 days' written notice to the Grantee. Upon termination, the Grantee will be entitled to payment, determined on a pro rata basis, for services satisfactorily performed.

14.1 (b) With Cause

The State may immediately terminate this grant contract agreement if the State finds that there has been a failure to comply with the provisions of this grant contract, that reasonable progress has not been made or that the purposes for which the funds were granted have not been or will not be fulfilled. The State may take action to protect the interests of the State of Minnesota, including the refusal to disburse additional funds and requiring the return of all or part of the funds already disbursed.

14.2 Termination by The Commissioner of Administration

The Commissioner of Administration may immediately and unilaterally cancel this grant contract agreement if further performance under the agreement would not serve agency purposes or is not in the best interest of the State.

14.3 Termination for Insufficient Funding

The State may immediately terminate this grant contract agreement if:

- (a)** It does not obtain funding from the Minnesota Legislature
- (b)** Or, if funding cannot be continued at a level sufficient to allow for the payment of the services covered here. Termination must be by written or fax notice to the Grantee. The State is not obligated to pay for any services that are provided after notice and effective date of termination. However, the Grantee will be entitled to payment, determined on a pro rata basis, for services satisfactorily performed to the extent that funds are available. The State will not be assessed any penalty if the grant contract agreement is terminated because of the decision of the Minnesota Legislature, or other funding source, not to appropriate funds. The State must provide the Grantee notice of the lack of funding within a reasonable time of the State's receiving that notice.

15 Data Disclosure

Under [Minn. Stat. § 270C.65](#), Subd. 3, and other applicable law, the Grantee consents to disclosure of its social security number, federal employer tax identification number, and/or Minnesota tax identification number, already provided to the State, to federal and state tax agencies and state personnel involved in the payment of state obligations. These identification numbers may be used in the enforcement of federal and state tax laws which could result in action requiring the Grantee to file state tax returns and pay delinquent state tax liabilities, if any.

1. STATE ENCUMBRANCE VERIFICATION

Individual certifies that funds have been encumbered as required by Minn. Stat. § 16A.15

Signed: _____

Date: _____

SWIFT Contract/PO No(s). _____

2. GRANTEE

The Grantee certifies that the appropriate person(s) have executed the grant contract on behalf of the Grantee as required by applicable articles, bylaws, resolutions, or ordinances.

By: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

3. STATE AGENCY

By: _____

(with delegated authority)

Title: _____

Date: _____