

**Council Agenda Item 25-0471R**



**MEETING DATE:** 06/16/2025

**SUBJECT/TITLE:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENT WITH THE ARROWHEAD ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC. IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$150,000 TO SUPPORT LAKE SUPERIOR ZOO GROUNDS REVITALIZATION IN ASSOCIATION WITH A GRANT FROM THE MINNESOTA URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY PROGRAM.

**SUBMITTED BY:** Jessica Peterson - Manager, Parks & Recreation

**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve.

**BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** N/A

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION:** June 13, 2016 (16-0436R) – City Council authorized a ten (10) year management agreement between the City of Duluth and the Arrowhead Zoological Society, Inc., d/b/a Lake Superior Zoological Society, for the continued management and operations of the Lake Superior Zoological Gardens (“Zoo”). The management agreement describes the collaborative process that is necessary for the proper management and operation of the City-owned Zoo property.

**BACKGROUND:** The Zoo is managed and operated by the Arrowhead Zoological Society, which includes landscaping and trees. As a result of direct appropriation from the State legislature, a grant was awarded to the City of Duluth for the Lake Superior Zoo by the Minnesota Urban and Community Forestry Program, which is also included (Item 25-0470R) for approval at this Council Meeting. The City of Duluth will act as a pass-through entity for the awarded grant with the Arrowhead Zoological Society, Inc. as the subrecipient. This will enable the implementation of grant deliverables including tree planting to promote biodiversity and provide natural shade, creation of an animal orchard and browse forest, and educational signage. Combined, this project will improve the visitor experience and enhance animal welfare by providing fresh, natural food sources and improved shaded habitats.

**BUDGET/FISCAL IMPACT:** If authorized, the subrecipient funding agreement will allow the City of Duluth to act as a pass-thru entity for the awarded State of Minnesota grant funding. The total amount of funding will be \$150,000, which is the full amount of the State of Minnesota grant.

**OPTIONS:** Authorize the subrecipient funding agreement to support removal and replacement of invasive and diseased trees, as well as the addition of new trees that will benefit animals at the Zoo and improve the visitor experience or forego authorization to decline the direct appropriation and forego landscaping, tree planting, and functional site improvements.

**NECESSARY ACTION:** Authorize the subrecipient funding agreement.

**ATTACHMENTS:** Exhibit A: Sub-recipient funding agreement between the City of Duluth and the Arrowhead Zoological Society, Inc.