

Council Agenda Item 25-0415R



MEETING DATE: 5/27/25

SUBJECT/TITLE: Second Amendment to Agreement 24275 with the Minnesota Historical Society to Extend the Term to September 30, 2027, for Implementation of the Waabizheshikana: The Marten Trail Interpretive Plan

SUBMITTED BY: Tim Byrns, Parks & Recreation

RECOMMENDATION: Approve

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: N/A

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION:

- Resolution 20-0605R authorizing an agreement with US EPA obligating the City to pay for the planning, fabrication, and installation of interpretive signage on City property located within the boundaries of the Spirit Lake Sediment Remediation project.
- Resolution 21-0180R approving the Waabizheshikana: The Marten Trail Interpretive Trail Master Plan and its implementation.
- Resolution 21-0317R authorizing application for a grant from the Minnesota Historical Society to design, fabricate, and install interpretive signage on Segments 0 to 3 of Waabizheshikana: The Marten Trail.
- Resolution 24-0525R authorizing acceptance of the grant from the Minnesota Historical Society.
- Resolution 22-0086 authorizing a 1st amendment to the grant agreement to extend expiration date.

BACKGROUND: This is the second amendment to the Minnesota Historical and Cultural Heritage Grant Agreement City contract no. 24275 to extend the expiration date to September 30, 2027, for the implementation of Waabizheshikana: The Marten Trail Interpretive Plan.

The extension is necessary to provide additional time to secure all required federal and state approvals for a larger \$6 million project of which the interpretive plan is an integral part.

Funds from this and other grants will be sufficient to cover the entire cost to fabricate and install the interpretive signage.

The larger \$6 million project of which the interpretive signage is a part will enhance public access to the restored St Louis River Estuary by:

1. Renewing and enhancing the existing riverfront trail – Waabizheshikana: The Marten Trail.
2. Extending Waabizheshikana: The Marten Trail from its current terminus at the Riverside neighborhood to the Smithville, Grand Avenue Estates, and Morgan Park neighborhoods; and
3. Enhancing connected water accesses at Munger Landing and Blackmer Park to supplement the motorized boat accesses there now with facilities for walking, cycling, picnicking, paddling, and shore fishing.

The larger project will be funded by approximately \$5.4 million in previously awarded federal and state grants and approximately \$600,000 from the City's so-called St Louis River Corridor half-and-half tax – a one-half of one percent increment in the City's tourism taxes that, per state law, may only be used to improve publicly owned outdoor recreation facilities in a designated area near the St Louis River.

BUDGET/FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

OPTIONS: N/A: much of the work is obligated by a 2020 agreement with the US EPA.

NECESSARY ACTION: Approve.

ATTACHMENTS: Exhibit A