



Council Agenda Item 25-0566R

MEETING DATE: 07/21/2025

SUBJECT/TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT 24739 WITH THE MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY FOR LAKEWALK INTERPRETATIVE PLAN IMPLEMENTATION.

SUBMITTED BY: Cliff Knettel, Assistant Manager of Parks & Recreation

RECOMMENDATION: Approve.

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: N/A

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION:

February 27, 2023 (23-0162R) – Authorized application to the U.S. Department of Transportation for up to \$8,200,000 for a Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (“RAISE”) grant for resilient rehabilitation of the Lakewalk.

June 26, 2023 (23-0494R) – Approved and authorized implementation of the Lakewalk Interpretive Plan.

September 11, 2023 (23-0710R) – Authorized application to the Minnesota Historical Society for a grant of up to \$166,000 to implement portions of the Lakewalk Interpretive Plan.

March 11, 2024 (24-0189R) – Authorized acceptance of a Minnesota Historical and Cultural Heritage Grant in an amount of \$165,725 from the Minnesota Historical Society to implement portions of the Lakewalk Interpretive Plan.

BACKGROUND: The Lakewalk between the corner of the Lake and 27th Avenue East is a critical multi-modal transportation corridor connecting visitors and residents to Lake Superior, business districts, and residential areas. Repeated storm damage and accessibility limitations of the existing trail require reconstruction to retreat the trail, where possible, away from the immediate Lake Superior shoreline and realignment to reduce grade changes and improve turning radius. These improvements will be supported through an awarded RAISE grant.

The Lakewalk Interpretive Plan describes opportunities to improve connectivity between Superior Street and the Lakewalk while incorporating new interpretive signage to improve placemaking by sharing stories of the history that shaped Duluth. Implementation of the Interpretive Plan requires coordination with the reconstruction activities.

This resolution will amend the expiration date of the MN Historical and Cultural Heritage Grant to match the RAISE funding expiration to support concurrent implementation of the associated Lakewalk improvements. The matching funds of \$21,775 will come through the RAISE funding supporting the Lakewalk reconstruction project.

BUDGET/FISCAL IMPACT: This amendment will allow for the full use of the awarded Historical Society grant funding. The match funding through RAISE provides an avenue for extending the Historical Society grant, where the expiration date is allowed to be extended to match the federal funding involved with the project. If this amendment is not approved, then additional City funding would need to be located to pay for existing contracts with vendors and the grant agreement with the Historical Society will not be completed as submitted.

OPTIONS: Authorize the amendment to allow the project to continue moving forward or decline the amendment to forfeit the grant funding and require other City funding to be identified to complete the

committed scope.

NECESSARY ACTION: Authorize the first amendment to agreement 24739 with the Minnesota Historical Society.

ATTACHMENTS: Exhibit A – Minnesota Historical and Cultural Heritage Grant Agreement Amendment