

Council Agenda Item 26-0059R



MEETING DATE: January 26, 2026

SUBJECT/TITLE: 26-0059R, RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION TO THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY FOR A 2026 COMMUNITY-WIDE ASSESSMENT GRANT APPLICATION IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$500,000

SUBMITTED BY: Tricia Hobbs –Manager, Economic Development and DEDA

RECOMMENDATION: Approve.

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Approve.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION: N/A

BACKGROUND: The City of Duluth has a strong record of using EPA Brownfields funding to assess former industrial and commercial sites and support redevelopment. Past EPA grants have enabled the City to complete numerous Phase I and Phase II Environmental Site Assessments, identify contamination concerns early, and reduce uncertainty for property owners and developers. This work has helped advance redevelopment in areas such as the St. Louis River Corridor, Lincoln Park, and the downtown waterfront.

To continue this progress, the City is seeking authorization to apply for the EPA’s 2026 Community-Wide Assessment Grant. If awarded, up to \$500,000 would be used to conduct additional environmental assessments and update the City’s inventory of underutilized properties. These activities help remove barriers to redevelopment, improve site readiness, and support community revitalization.

No matching funds are required, and the application will be submitted on January 28, 2026.

BUDGET/FISCAL IMPACT: No impact.

OPTIONS: Authorize the application or forego the application.

NECESSARY ACTION: Authorize application.

ATTACHMENTS: None.

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