



## Legislation Text

---

**File #:** 23-0687R, **Version:** 1

---

### RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF A GRANT FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY'S RENEWABLES ADVANCING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE (RACER) PROGRAM FOR THE FORM FOLLOWS FUNCTION (F3) RESILIENCE PLANNING PROGRAM

#### CITY PROPOSAL:

RESOLVED, that the city of Duluth ("City") applied to the RACER grant to establish the Form Follows Function (F3): A framework for community-based energy resilience planning in the Midwest program that was submitted on July 22, 2022 and was awarded said funding for the project in the amount of \$977,813;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City has the legal authority to enter into a contract for the awarded amount;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City has not violated any federal, state, or local laws pertaining to fraud, bribery, graft, kickbacks, collusion, conflict of interest, or other unlawful or corrupt practices;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the mayor and clerk are authorized to execute such documents as are necessary to implement the project on behalf of the city.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: This application was for a federal RACER grant that the City applied for in July 2022. The city grant application in the amount of \$977,813 was notified of their selection to receive the award on November 2, 2022. The grant was awarded to the City, in partnership with Ecolibrium 3, to establish the Form Follows Function (F3) program. This two-year project will establish a greater understanding of functional needs at different community levels and will help create a pathway for a more resilient utility infrastructure in the City. The program and process guidelines will be packaged and delivered to the Department of Energy at the end of the 24-month grant period to help other cold-climate communities achieve greater resiliency. The project will help develop and guide future Solar Photovoltaics (PV) and Storage sites for the City of Duluth. Part of the grant will fund the identification of 8-12 sites around the city that would benefit from solar development. This portion of the grant award will lay the foundation for future development by working with a third-party vendor (TBD) to complete site analysis such as soil borings and site utility capacity. Having these items identified will prepare Duluth to access additional funding in the future for actual site development. The other part of the grant will fund community-based research to help determine how we can develop more resilient utilities, housing, and communities. This research will be completed by hosting community lead meetings and listening to our community members.