



Legislation Text

File #: 17-0691R, **Version:** 1

Title

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH ST LOUIS COUNTY PROVIDING FOR CITY OF DULUTH PARTICIPATION IN A WILDFIRE PREVENTION PROJECT INVOLVING REMOVAL OF STORM-DAMAGED TREES ON CITY PROPERTY EAST OF HOWARD GNESEN ROAD IN HARTLEY PARK.

CITY PROPOSAL:

RESOLVED, that the proper city officials are authorized to execute a memorandum of understanding, substantially in the form of the attached Exhibit A, with the St. Louis county land and minerals department providing for participation by the city of Duluth in a wildfire prevention project involving removal of storm-damaged trees on a 2.3-acre parcel of city property east of Howard Gnesen Road in Hartley Park. Proceeds from the project on city property will be deposited in fund no. 110-700-1420-4644 (general fund, transfers and other functions, capital program, misc. fees, sales & services) to be expended on restoration of areas impacted by the project.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: This resolution authorizes city officials to execute a memorandum of understanding to participate in a wildfire prevention project involving removal of storm-damaged trees on a 2.3-acre parcel of city property east of Howard Gnesen Road in Hartley Park. The July 2016 wind storm hit the northwest corner of Hartley Park particularly hard, downing or damaging a large portion of the trees on city park property and adjacent County tax forfeit property. City fire officials determined that fuel loads on and around the city property pose a risk of wildfire to Hartley Park and surrounding private residences. The project is designed to remove downed and damaged trees to the extent necessary to reduce wildfire hazard. Undamaged trees will be left in place in most cases. Removal will be very limited in the vicinity of wetlands, vernal pools, and Riparian Management Zones. The modest proceeds from the timber removal will be reinvested in restoring the landing area and access road created for the project.