



Legislation Text

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RESOLUTION SETTING THE CITY OF DULUTH'S PRIORITIES FOR THE 2019 LEGISLATIVE SESSION.

CITY PROPOSAL:

RESOLVED, that the City of Duluth has the following legislative agenda for 2019:

- **Streets.** Securing approval of a one-half percent local sales tax for up to 25 years with all proceeds of the special sales tax dedicated to construction and repair of local streets, sidewalks, and bridges. In preparation for this request, the question was placed before Duluth voters during the 2017 general election and passed in every single precinct with 76.5 percent of the citywide vote.
- **Medical District.** Securing approval of state infrastructure aid to make public improvements to facilitate significant investment in the city's medical district. The city will take the lead role in coordinating legislative efforts with Essentia Health and St. Luke's Hospital to present this request to the 2019 Legislature. State infrastructure aid will be used to develop parking facilities, street plan changes and site preparation for redevelopment associated with improved medical facilities. The city will contribute funding to leverage the state infrastructure aid and the legislative effort will include linking building trades training opportunities to the Medical District developments.
- **Seawall Restoration.** Seek state funding for improvements to the seawall and pedestrian plaza adjacent to the Duluth Entertainment Convention Center from Minnesota Slip to Pier B.
- **Storm Cleanup.** Seek state funding to repair the substantial damage to the city's lake walk resulting from storms in 2018. The city will work with federal and state officials for a disaster declaration to provide funding for a portion of the repair/replacement costs. The city will rebuilding facilities that are more resilient in the face of powerful Lake Superior storms.
- **Congdon Trust Property Preservation.** Seek legislation to preserve city ownership interests in undeveloped Lake Superior shoreline property in the far eastern portion of the city.
- **Industrial Contamination Cleanup.** Secure tax increment financing authority for cleanup and site preparation at the Lot D waterfront site.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: This resolution sets the top City of Duluth legislative priorities for the 2019 legislative session. The city intends to take the lead role in advocating for these initiatives, in collaboration with the Duluth legislative delegation, who will also serve as authors of these bills.