



Legislation Text

File #: 19-0706R, **Version:** 1

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH STATE OF MINNESOTA, ACTING BY AND THROUGH THE COMMISSIONER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, TO PERFORM A COASTAL MARSH RESTORATION PROJECT IN KINGSBURY BAY.

CITY PROPOSAL:

RESOLVED, that the proper city officials are hereby authorized to enter into and execute a license agreement, substantially in the form attached as Exhibit 1, with the State of Minnesota, acting by and through the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources, to access city-owned property in connection with a coast marsh restoration project in the St. Louis River Estuary (the "Project") to: (a) stage equipment and materials for the Project; (b) provide ingress and egress to the Kingsbury Creek portion of the Project; and (c) perform the Project.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: This resolution authorizes the city to enter into a license agreement with the State of Minnesota, acting by and through the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources (the "DNR"), to access city-owned property in connection with a coast marsh restoration project in the St. Louis River Estuary (the "Project") to: (a) stage equipment and materials for the Project; (b) provide ingress and egress to the Kingsbury Creek portion of the Project; and (c) perform the Project. The State will perform the Project at no cost to the City.

Kingsbury Bay is an 80-acre shallow sheltered bay approximately six miles inland from Lake Superior and one mile upstream of Grassy Point. The bay is surrounded by land containing the Indian Point Campground and shoreline trails owned by the City of Duluth and residential development along the north shore. Sedimentation from Kingsbury Creek watershed has converted approximately 24 acres of former open water wetland to a shallow emergent marsh dominated by narrow-leaved cattail, an invasive species. The shallowing has reduced the hydrodynamic effects of the Lake Superior seiche, diversity of fish habitat, and access to recreational boaters. The DNR will reestablish shallow sheltered bay habitat at Kingsbury Bay by excavating approximately 174,000 cubic yards (CY) of sediment. Excavation will create a diversity of depths, deep fisheries habitat, and a channel to improve flow and access into the bay. The dredge material from the bay will be transported and reused as a biological medium for placement over impaired substrates at Grassy Point.