Legislation Text

File #: 22-0646R, **Version:** 1

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE FROM THE MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES PREPARING FOR EAB GRANT PROGRAM (22-018R TITLE CORRECTED FROM PROTECT COMMUNITY FORESTS) TO PROVIDE FUNDS TO REMOVE AND REPLACE DISEASED BOULEVARD ASH TREES, NOT TO EXCEED $150,000.

CITY PROPOSAL:
WHEREAS, the City of Duluth authorized a EAB management plan in 2016; and

WHEREAS, the state is in need of implementing activities to suppress EAB populations in the City of Duluth in order to slow the spread of EAB from the city into surrounding areas;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the proper city officials are hereby authorized to accept funds from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) through Preparing for EAB Grant Program in the amount of up to $150,000, such funds to be used to reimburse costs associated with the activities related to the removal of EAB infested trees and the replacement of removed ash trees.

FURTHER RESOLVED, the city of Duluth has the legal authority to accept the money and financial, technical, and managerial capacity to ensure proper planning and maintenance of the project. There is no match required.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: This resolution authorizes acceptance from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Preparing for EAB grant in the amount of up to $150,000 for the removal and replacement of select ash trees consistent with the 2016 City Council approved Emerald Ash Borer Management Plan.

The City’s EAB Management Plan calls for: 1. Removal of non-infected ash under 12 inches in diameter and all infected trees. 2. Replacement of those trees on a one-to-one basis. 3. Treatment of non-infected healthy ash greater than 12 inches in diameter. To date, Duluth has removed 1,521 ash and planted 1,500 replacement trees of varies species. Approximately 1400 remain.

The focus of this grant application is timely removal of more than 500 large infected ash trees that are over 16” in diameter. Most of these ash trees are located on boulevards in residential neighborhoods. The propensity of infected ash to eventually shatter and collapse with limited warning makes large ash trees a growing hazard to people and property.