



Legislation Text

File #: RES PH 18-307, **Version:** 2

Amending the Parks and Recreation 2017 Capital Improvement Budget in the amount of \$45,000 to reflect an amendment to a grant received from the State of Minnesota for the replacement of publicly owned shade trees.

WHEREAS, Emerald ash borer (EAB) was first discovered in Minnesota in 2009, in the South St. Anthony neighborhood of the City of Saint Paul; and

WHEREAS, Emerald ash borer is a destructive forest pest that kills all species of North American ash trees (*Fraxinus*); and

WHEREAS, Minnesota is estimated to have the most ash trees in the nation, nearly 1 million, and the City of Saint Paul's urban forest is made up of approximately 20% ash trees with over 26,000 publicly owned ash trees on street boulevards alone; and

WHEREAS, it is expected, based on the experiences of other communities, that EAB's toll on Saint Paul's ash trees will be exacting and quick (within the next ten years or so); and

WHEREAS, the loss of ash trees will require a massive replacement effort of trees of varying diverse species in order to maintain the urban forest and tree canopy from which we all currently benefit ; and

WHEREAS, the State of Minnesota passed legislation to award Saint Paul \$1.5 million in state capital bonding funds, available through the Department of Natural Resources, towards replacement efforts; and

WHEREAS, the budget established in City Council Resolution 17-206 was for a total available funds of \$1,455,000, accounting for a 3% administration fee that was later determined to be unnecessary for the compliance of this agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor, pursuant to Section 10.07.01 of the Charter of the City of Saint Paul, does certify that there are available for appropriation, funds of \$45,000 in excess of those estimated in the 2017 CIB budget; now, therefore, be it

NOW THERFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Saint Paul, upon recommendation of the Mayor and advice of the Long Range Capital Improvement Budget Committee, that \$45,000 is available for appropriation in the 2017 Capital Improvement Budget, as heretofore adopted and amended by this Council, be hereby further amended in the particulars as specified in the attached financial analysis.

See Attachment

The Saint Paul Long-Range Capital Improvement Budget Committee received this request on October 8, 2018 and recommended approval.