



Legislation Text

File #: RES 11-2545, **Version:** 1

Authorizing the Office of Financial Services to apply for and, if awarded, accept a Petrofund Grant from the Minnesota Department of Commerce for the purpose of reimbursing costs for investigation and cleanup of underground petroleum storage tanks at the Pedro's Luggage site at 501 Robert Street North.

WHEREAS, the Office of Financial Services is requesting permission to apply for Petrofund grant funds from the Minnesota Department of Commerce for the purpose of recovering costs for investigation and cleanup of underground petroleum storage tanks; and

WHEREAS, the Petrofund was created by the Minnesota State Legislature in 1987 in response to federal legislation requiring all owners and operators of regulated underground petroleum storage tanks to show that they have up to \$1 million immediately available to respond to a petroleum tank leak or liability to a third party. To help tank owners and operators fulfill these requirements, and to address historical petroleum contamination throughout the state, the legislature made financial assistance available through the Petrofund. In Minnesota, petroleum storage tank owners and operators are eligible to apply for up to \$1 million of Petrofund reimbursement if they have incurred investigative or cleanup costs, or if they owe damages to a third party. Eligible applicants include homeowners, school districts, government agencies, sovereign tribal nations, and petroleum retailers; and

WHEREAS, financial assistance from the Petrofund comes in the form of reimbursement for incurred costs. The fund reimburses eligible applicants up to 90 percent of "reasonable and necessary" costs they incur in responding to a petroleum tank leak; and

WHEREAS, on December 1, 2009 the property located at 501 Robert Street was donated to the City of Saint Paul for use as a Park; and

WHEREAS, at the time of the donation, the building that formerly held Pedro's Luggage was on the site; and

WHEREAS, in order to develop the property for use a park, it was necessary to demolish the building; and

WHEREAS, during the demolition of the building, underground diesel tanks were found that posed an environmental hazard; and

WHEREAS, the diesel tanks were removed and the hazard remediated, for a total cost of \$9,743.20, of which \$5,643.86 are eligible for reimbursement under the Petrofund program; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Financial Services is requesting permission to apply for a Petrofund Grant from the Minnesota Department of Commerce for the purpose of recovering these eligible costs; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Saint Paul authorizes the proper city officials from the Office of Financial Services to apply for and, if awarded, enter into an agreement with the Minnesota Department of Commerce to accept the funds of behalf of the City.

None