



## Legislation Text

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**File #:** RES 12-877, **Version:** 1

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Authorizing the Department of Parks and Recreation to apply for and, if awarded, accept a grant in the amount of \$20,000 from the Mardag Foundation for the purpose of supporting youth worker professional development through the Sprockets Out-of-School Time Network.

WHEREAS, the Department of Parks and Recreation is requesting permission to apply for \$20,000 in grant funds from the Mardag Foundation for the purpose of supporting youth worker professional development through the Sprockets Out-of-School Time Network; and

WHEREAS, the Mardag Foundation invested \$20,000 in Sprockets year one implementation of a three year quality improvement plan and this grant would be a renewed investment of an additional \$20,000 to support Sprockets year two implementation; and

WHEREAS, Sprockets network members have identified challenges to ensuring quality in youth programs such as little shared language or understanding about what makes a quality program, little to no budget for staff training and professional development, and organizational leadership that lacks the understanding or capacity to support staff in implementing improved youth work practices; and

WHEREAS, research shows that the components of out-of-school time program quality include effective staff and intentional, focused programming; and

WHEREAS, research shows when programs do not have quality elements, participants can fail to achieve positive outcomes or even begin to perform worse than their peers; and

WHEREAS, Sprockets, Saint Paul's Out-of-School-Time network, has identified continuous quality improvement as one of its six key strategies; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Saint Paul authorizes the Department of Parks and Recreation to apply for and if awarded accept these funds.

See Attachment.