

Legislation Text

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Authorizing the Department of Parks and Recreation to enter into Joint Powers Agreements with the Saint Paul School District to permit Independent School District #625 to enroll designated areas within College Park, Langford Park, and Marydale Park into the Minnesota School Forest Program.

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of Minnesota Statutes Section 471.59, the City of Saint Paul and Saint Paul Independent School District (ISD # 625) are empowered to exercise jointly or cooperatively governmental powers common to each and to permit one governmental unit to perform services for another governmental unit; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) maintains the Minnesota School Forest Program, pursuant to the provisions of Minn. Stat. §89.41; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota School Forest Program provides School Forest designation to woodland parcels utilized for a variety of educational opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the DNR provides resources and sets guidelines and criteria to maintain school forest status; and

WHEREAS, ISD #625 is authorized to establish a Minnesota School Forest; and

WHEREAS, the City of Saint Paul, Department of Parks and Recreation has identified 20.75 acres within Marydale Park designated as the Marydale Park Outdoor Classroom, 3.86 acres within College Park designated as the College Park Outdoor Classroom, and 6.13 acres within Langford Park designated as the Langford Park Outdoor Classroom, to provide ecological education and historical interpretation for children and adults, habitat for native wildlife, and an urban woodland oasis; and

WHEREAS, the City wishes to enter into an agreement to permit ISD #625 enroll the Outdoor Classrooms into the Minnesota School Forest Program, and conduct educational programs and basic maintenance tasks in cooperation with the City; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the proper city officials are hereby authorized to enter into the attached Joint Powers Agreements with the Saint Paul School District.