



Legislation Text

File #: RES 21-1269, **Version:** 1

Approving the use of grant funds through the Ward 6 Neighborhood Star Year-Round Program for improvements to The Minnesota China Friendship Garden and Sir Boxing And Fitness Gym.

WHEREAS, on August 20, 2021, the Neighborhood STAR Board reviewed proposals for STAR grant financing through the Ward 6 Neighborhood STAR Year-Round Program for capital improvements to the Minnesota China Friendship Garden and Sir Boxing and Fitness Gym; and

WHEREAS, enhancements around the Hmong Heritage Wall and final payment for the garden's 2019 security cameras will move phase one of this initiative forward and increase visitor traffic to the Phalen Keller Regional Park; and

WHEREAS, providing additional STAR dollars to Sir Boxing and Fitness Gym for the buildout of formerly vacant storefront space will assist in creating a welcome addition to Arcade Street; and

WHEREAS, on a scale from 1 (low) to 5 (high), the Neighborhood STAR Board rated the China Friendship Garden proposal a 3.3 and the Sir Boxing and Fitness Gym build out a 4.0; and

WHEREAS, due to the community significance of the China Friendship Garden, a waiver to Neighborhood STAR Guidelines requiring a minimum \$1 for \$1 match is being recommended; and

WHEREAS, a waiver to Neighborhood STAR Guidelines of the required \$75 application fee is being recommended for the Sir Boxing and Fitness Gym proposal; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Mayor and the Saint Paul City Council to participate in the financing of these activities by providing grant financing up to \$15,000 for improvements to the Minnesota China Friendship Garden's Hmong wall and security camera proposal and up to \$15,000 for capital improvements to the new Sir Boxing and Fitness Gym space through the Ward 6 Neighborhood STAR Year-Round Program is being recommended; now be it

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Mayor, the Council of the City of Saint Paul hereby authorizes and directs the appropriate City officials to execute the necessary grant documents to implement this Resolution, subject to approval by the City Attorney; and be it

FINALLY RESOLVED, staff of the Department of Planning and Economic Development are further authorized and directed to proceed with all other actions necessary to implement this Resolution.