



Legislation Text

File #: RES 23-509, **Version:** 1

Authorizing the Department of Parks and Recreation to apply for and accept a grant from the Consumer Product Safety Commission, Pool Safety Grant Program (PSGP) in the amount of \$250,000 to support the Saint Paul Aquatics Water Safety and Drowning Prevention Program.

WHEREAS, the grant requires a 40% match in the Project Manager salary, a 60% match in the Project Coordinator salary, and a 70% match in the Enforcement Trainers salaries. Existing budgeted funds will be used for the match; and

WHEREAS, the grant will provide financial support for aquatic employees' salaries to provide educational and enforcement duties, procurement of life-safety equipment, water-safety educational resources, supplies for educational event attendance; and

WHEREAS, the Saint Paul Aquatics section works towards a future where every resident is trained and equipped with life-saving swimming skills, and a water safety education; and

WHEREAS, the Saint Paul Aquatics section works to prioritize reaching and serving resident who identify as a young person, are BIPOC, low-income (50% AMI), have limited swimming proficiency, limited water safety knowledge and recreate in and around bodies of water; and

WHEREAS, historical and systemic institutional barriers have precluded communities of color and immigrant communities from access to pools and perpetuated a generational gap of residents who do not know how to swim or have a water safety education; and

WHEREAS, the City of Saint Paul residents have overwhelming access to bodies of water, a city that was founded on the banks of the Mississippi River, is home to 10 lakes, countless ponds, and private pools; and

WHEREAS, Saint Paul Aquatics manages and operates three water parks and one guarded beach, teaches water safety education courses in the community, teaches and certifies lifeguards; and

WHEREAS, the Saint Paul Aquatics section wants to continue to expand our past and current efforts to improve facility and water safety, working towards zero drowning deaths in the City of Saint Paul; and

RESOLVED, that the City Council of Saint Paul hereby authorizes the Parks and Recreation Department to apply for and accept a grant from the Consumer Product Safety Commission, Pool Safety Grant Program (PSGP) in the amount of \$250,000 to support the Saint Paul Aquatics Water Safety and Drowning Prevention Program.