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From the Executive Director of Parks requesting authorization to apply for and accept a State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Urban and Community Forestry Grant, by recommending adoption of the following:

**A RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) administers the Urban and Community Forestry Grants Program (the Grant Program) specified in Sections 23.097(1g) and (1r), Wisconsin State Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the DNR is seeking to fund projects through the Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, the Grant Program is designed to support projects and programs that improve a community’s capacity to manage its trees; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Culture (DPRC) is seeking Grant Program funding to fund the purchase of trees to expedite planting efforts mitigating the impacts of trees removed due to diseases, such as Emerald Ash Borer; and

WHEREAS, the Grant Program funding will expand the capacity of DPRC forestry operations, by increasing the amount of funding towards tree purchasing, improving the ability for DPRC to replace trees removed due to Emerald Ash Borer, increasing tree diversity, and implementing forestry management plans; and

WHEREAS, the estimated cost of the project is \$50,000, with a DNR share of \$25,000, with a local match of \$25,000 provided through the existing forestry budget, and in-kind costs in the form of staff time; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Grant Program requirements, DPRC identifies the Operations Manager, Land Resource Division, DPRC, as the Authorized Representative to complete the following: sign and submit the Grant Program application, sign a Grant Agreement between the County and the DNR, submit interim and/or final reports to the DNR to satisfy the Grant Agreement, submit Grant reimbursement requests to the DNR, and sign and submit other required documentation; and

WHEREAS, DPRC attests to the validity and veracity of the statements and representations contained in the Grant application; and

WHEREAS, DPRC requests a Grant Agreement to carry out the project; and

WHEREAS, projects may start no earlier than January 1, 2025, and must be completed by December 31, 2025; and

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WHEREAS, the Director, DPRC, recommends that DPRC be authorized to apply for and accept the 2025 DNR Urban and Community Forestry Grants identified above; and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Parks and Culture, at its meeting of September 3, 2024, recommended adoption of File No. 24-721 (vote 7-0); and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Finance, at its meeting of September 12, 2024, recommended adoption of File No. 24-721 (vote 6-0); now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Culture (DPRC) will comply with all local, State, and Federal rules, regulations, and ordinances relating to this project and the cost-share agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, DPRC is hereby authorized to apply for and accept the 2025 State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Urban and Community Forestry Grant identified above.

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