

PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

09-0162R

RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE FREE CONVEYANCE OF TAX FORFEITED LAND FOR STORMWATER DRAINAGE PURPOSES LOCATED ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF MORGAN PARK ENTRANCE ROAD NEAR THE INTERSECTION WITH ARBOR STREET.

CITY PROPOSAL:

RESOLVED, that the Saint Louis County Board of Commissioners is hereby requested to free convey to the city of Duluth the following tax forfeited parcels for stormwater drainage purposes:

Auditor's Plat #19, Lots 8 and 9 except northerly 125 feet and all of Lots 10-13 inclusive (part of Parcel ID 0132-00080).

Approved as to form:

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Attorney

PLNG/PC      KD/cm      2/27/2009

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: This resolution requests that the Saint Louis County Board of Commissioners free-convey the described tax forfeited land for stormwater drainage purposes. This parcel is crossed by Morgan Park Creek and another unnamed drainage and includes two storm water structures, an eight foot diameter box culvert and an 18 inch diameter storm sewer pipe.

This 1.1 acre property is roughly 160' x 270'. It is almost entirely wetland and is 20-30 feet below the street level. According to the city engineer's office, Morgan Park Creek flows through the property at a rapid velocity during 10-year storms and filling of the parcel would likely result in flooding and erosion. Acquisition of this parcel will ensure that this natural drainage will continue to function and that city staff will be able to access the drainage for periodic maintenance.

This request was reviewed by the city planning commission at its February 18, 2009. The commissioners voted unanimously to recommend that the city council request the free conveyance of this property to the city of Duluth.

This free conveyance of tax-forfeited land to the city is a public-to-public transfer; therefore, there is no tax base impact at this time. In addition, the land will not be available to join the tax base in the future.