

PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES COMMITTEE

10-0572R

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT WITH RENDFIELD LAND COMPANY, INC., FOR A WINDOW TREATMENT AGREEMENT PERTAINING TO THE SKYWALK THROUGH THE FUR STORAGE BUILDING PROPERTY.

CITY PROPOSAL:

RESOLVED, that the proper city officials are hereby authorized to enter into an agreement, a copy of which is on file in the office of the city clerk as Public Document No. _____, with the Rendfield Land Company, Inc., for the maintenance of window coverings on the south-facing skywalk window of the Fur Storage Building property elevator and stair tower.

Approved:

Approved for presentation to council:

Department Director

Chief Administrative Officer

Approved as to form:

Approved:

Attorney

Auditor

PW&U/ATTY REA:dma 10/28/2010

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to authorize the City to enter into an agreement with the Rendfield Land Company, Inc. for the maintenance of window coverings on the south-facing window in the skywalk elevator and stair tower located next to the Lake Superior Place Building (previously the MacDonald Building). Rendfield Land Company, Inc. is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Minnesota Power Company which owns the Lake Superior Place Building (on the north end of the skywalk bridge from the MP corporate headquarters building) and the vacant lot to the east of it in which DEDA and the City constructed an elevator and stair tower structure to carry traffic from the Lake Superior Place Building to the Tech Village. As this property was previously occupied by a furrier and fur storage business and for want of a better name, it has come to be referred to as the "Fur Storage Building property."

When reaching an agreement with Bruce and Ruth Darling, the owners of the building to the east of the Fur Storage Building property, the Darlings were concerned that skywalk traffic not be able to look from the skywalk into the second and third story windows of their building as they use it as their private residence. DEDA/City staff assured them that the skywalk would be designed to respect this concern and the thus the skywalk on their property has no windows from which the public can directly view their quarters.

However, the design of the neighboring Fur Storage Building elevator and stair tower structure includes south-facing windows from which skywalk users can look into the Darling's residence. So to alleviate this concern, the City directed that opaque window coverings be added to the lower part of that structure's south-facing windows.

This in turn caused concern in the offices of Minnesota Power. After considerable discussion, it was agreed that the City would be responsible for the maintenance of the window coverings and that the MP's permission would be required to change or replace them. This agreement institutionalizes this arrangement.