

RECREATION, LIBRARIES AND AUTHORITIES COMMITTEE

13-0425R

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR AN ASSESSMENT OF THE MAIN
DULUTH PUBLIC LIBRARY FACILITY.

BY COUNCILOR LARSON:

WHEREAS, the main Duluth Public Library facility was designed more than 30 years ago, when library services and needs were much different than they are today; and

WHEREAS, the main library was used nearly 275,000 times in 2012; and the public computers, which did not exist when the building opened, were used approximately 64,000 times; and

WHEREAS, concerns have been raised that the facility requires significant improvements in order to meet the needs of the community now and in the future; and

WHEREAS, at its meeting on April 23, 2013, the Duluth Public Library board recommended hiring a consultant to establish a citizen committee and conduct an assessment of needs and to recommend steps for improving the facility; and

WHEREAS, the library board further recommended utilizing funds from the 2011 capital budget for this purpose; and

WHEREAS, the city council is supportive of this initiative.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Duluth city council hereby requests city administration begin the process of hiring a consultant to establish a citizen committee, conduct an assessment of needs and recommend steps for improving the facility per the recommendation of the library board.

Approved as to form:



Attorney

CCREQ/ATTY EL:cjk 7/31/2013

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: The Duluth Public Library board recommended hiring a consultant to establish a citizen committee and conduct an assessment of needs and to recommend steps for improving the main Duluth library facility. Concerns about the facility include an outdated HVAC system, lack of energy efficient windows and insulation, poor placement of restrooms, and an overall building design that is no longer conducive to library services and needs. The city council is requesting city administration begin the process of hiring a consultant pursuant to the recommendation of the library board.