FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE City of Duluth Parks and Recreation Division



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DATE: 03/11/2015 SUBJECT: \$50,000 Available to the Community in Parks Fund Neighborhood Grants BY: Daniel Fanning, Communications & Policy Director

\$50,000 Available to the Community in Parks Fund Neighborhood Grants

The City will make \$50,0000 available as part of the Parks Fund to support projects and initiatives which will enhance and improve City parks and recreation. The Neighborhood Grant program is designed to provide direct support for community groups and organizations to establish value in, and add value to, our City parks and recreation. Grant awards may range from \$500 - \$5,000 per request. The City is partnering with the Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation on this granting program.

Grant applications are due April 1, 2015. To begin the application process, follow this link: <u>http://www.dsacommunityfoundation.com/community-parks-and-recreation-program-1</u>

Proposals will be reviewed by a committee. The City of Duluth Parks and Recreation Commission will select and present their funding recommendations to City Council for final approval.

Parks Fund Neighborhood Grant Projects must:

Take place entirely or primarily on existing recognized units of Duluth's parks, recreation, and trails system;

Support the mission of Duluth's Parks and Recreation Division to fulfill the essential recreational, educational, cultural, and environmental needs that create a dynamic community; and

Encourage both financial and volunteer efforts.

Priority is given to projects that support one or more of the following key elements of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan:

- · Improve the quality of existing parks (especially neighborhood parks),
- Focus on connecting the community through trails and bikeways,
- Have fewer, but higher quality recreation buildings,
- · Enhance stewardship of natural resources,
- Expand partnerships with schools for community recreation and gathering, and
- Increase use and recognition of volunteers and volunteer groups.

For more information, please call the Parks and Recreation division at (218) 730-4300.

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