



REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

APPROVE RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE PRAIRIE ISLAND INDIAN COMMUNITY LAND TRUST TO INCLUDE THE ELK RUN PROPERTY

MEETING DATE:

August 5, 2019

ORIGINATING DEPT:

Office of the Mayor

AGENDA SECTION:

Tabled Items

PREPARED BY:

Michon Rogers

COUNCIL ACTION REQUESTED:

Approve Resolution in Support of the Prairie Island Indian Community Land Trust to Include the Elk Run Property

COUNCIL PRIORITIES:

Social Equity, Public Safety, Environmental Stewardship, Compassion

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS:

None

REPORT NARRATIVE:

The Prairie Island tribe is purchasing property known as Elk Run in order to provide for a safe and more spacious living environment for their members and seeks Federal approval for designation as a reservation.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:

Mayor Norton and City Council President met with Shelley Buck, Prairie Island President.

ALTERNATIVE ACTION(S):

If the request is denied, the request will go to Congress without our support.

PRIOR CITY COUNCIL AND COMMISSION ACTIONS:

None

FISCAL AND RESOURCE IMPACT:

None

ATTACHMENTS:

Resolution-Prairie Island2

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Prairie Island Indian Community is hopeful about the potential that the Elk Run property holds for the Community and is eager about the opportunities it will provide; and

WHEREAS, the Prairie Island Indian Community is a self-sufficient, sovereign Dakota nation with just over 1,000 registered tribal members; and

WHEREAS, the current reservation land has a trifecta of issues that have created unwarranted hardships and concerns for the Community for decades; and

WHEREAS, the Community is located on a physical island under constant threat of flooding, is the closest Community to a nuclear plant in the country and, has only one public access road on and off Prairie Island; and

WHEREAS, the current reservation can only accommodate 30% of the tribal membership and the community is desirous of more housing that is safe and offers amenities to the Community; and

WHEREAS, the Community has committed to working with the City of Rochester and other stakeholders in the region.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Common Council of the City of Rochester supports the Prairie Island Indian Community in its efforts to establish the Elk Run Property as additional reservation land for the Community, and urges the members of the Minnesota Congressional Delegation to similarly support such efforts through the enactment of appropriate federal legislation confirming the reservation status of these lands.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA,

THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2019.

PRESIDENT OF SAID COMMON COUNCIL

ATTEST: _____
CITY CLERK

APPROVED THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 2019.

MAYOR OF SAID CITY

(Seal of the City of Rochester, Minnesota)