



CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS AGENDA ACTION REQUEST

DATE: February 25, 2025

TO: Mark Washington, City Manager

COMMITTEE: Fiscal Committee

LIAISON: Molly Clarin, Chief Financial Officer

FROM: Laura Cleypool, Assistant Director
Parks and Recreation

SUBJECT: **Budget Amendment – Right Place RAP 2.0 Grant for Canal Park**

Background

The Michigan legislature appropriated \$100 million to be administered by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) for community revitalization and placemaking grants. The Revitalization and Placemaking (RAP) 2.0 Program supports projects that enable population and tax revenue growth through rehabilitation of vacant and blighted buildings and historic structures, rehabilitation and development of vacant properties, and development of permanent place-based infrastructure associated with social zones and traditional downtowns, outdoor dining and place-based public spaces.

The MEDC awarded a RAP 2.0 grant to The Right Place, Inc. in the amount of \$6,170,744. The Right Place is awarding \$750,000 to the City for improvements at Canal park.

The Canal Park project will transform this popular downtown park into a destination site for residents and visitors. The project includes a new multi-use trail that will transverse the park north to south, providing additional flood protection, a new multi-season pavilion for events, improved river access for personal watercraft, new destination playground designed in partnership with the Grand River Bands of Ottawa Indians, new native plantings to benefit water and air quality and additional seating throughout the park for picnics, river observation and relaxing. This project aligns with Grand River restoration goals and is a part of a larger regional project to improve Grand River connectivity to trails, activation, and flood protection.

Request

Construction will begin in spring 2025, with project completion by summer 2026. Total project cost is estimated at \$9,880,000. Other funding sources include Parks Millage, Parks Bonds, and Monroe North Tax Increment Finance Authority.

<u>Sources/Appropriations</u>	<u>Project Description</u>	<u>Amount (From)/To</u>
4080-751-9000-5762 24088-408024088G	Parks Capital Fund – Other State of MI Agencies – Grants	\$750,000
4080-751-9000-9880 24088-408024088G	Parks Capital Fund – Construction in Progress	(\$750,000)

cc: David Marquardt, Director of Parks and Recreation
 Connie Bohatch, Managing Director of Community Services
 Karie Enriquez, Project Manager
 Scott Saindon, Deputy CFO
 Otniel Kish, Budget Analyst