

AGENDA 66
DATE 4.21.20

RESOLUTION

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council hereby authorizes the submission of a grant application through the Land Information Access Association (LIAA) to amend the Master Plan to include a chapter about Coastal Resiliency.

At a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Norton Shores, held remotely, on the 21st day of April, 2020, the foregoing resolution was moved for adoption by Council Member

. The motion was supported by Council Member .

Ayes:

Nays:

Excused:

Resolution declared adopted/denied.

Shelly Stibitz, City Clerk



Internal Memo

April 13, 2020

TO: City Council Members

FROM: Ted Woodcock, Planning and Zoning Administrator

SUBJECT: Land Information Access Association (LIAA) Grant Application

Following please find comments regarding LIAA grant application information

LIAA BACKGROUND

Land Information Access Association is an organization founded in 1993 through grant funding through various foundations in the state of Michigan. Headquartered in Traverse City, LIAA's purpose is "to provide technical, scientific, educational, and information services to individual citizens, local interest groups, local governments, and other nonprofit corporations for land-use planning, resource management, emergency management planning, and environmental protection." LIAA has helped numerous communities throughout the state of Michigan, including some in West Michigan, such as the City of Grand Haven, Grand Haven Charter Township, and the City of Holland.

GRANT

LIAA has three (3) different types of grants that are available for communities: a full master plan, a Coastal Resilience Master Plan Chapter, and an Action Strategy. I believe the City of Norton Shores would be best served by having LIAA assist us in creating a new Master Plan chapter related to Coastal Resiliency. This chapter will give the City's officials, residents, and staff a united vision and approved document to base policy decisions on. During this time of higher water levels, dune and beach erosion, and flooding, this is a timely update to the Master Plan.

The Master Plan Chapter is the best grant option as it is not a full revision of the Master Plan, but yet gives the City an adopted chapter of the Master Plan. Since many decisions are based on the content of the Master Plan, having a dedicated chapter to Coastal Resiliency would serve as an approved document for stakeholders to base their decisions on. Unlike the Action Strategy grant type, the Master Plan Chapter addition carries a legal significance since each community is required to have a Master Plan and regularly update it per the Michigan Planning Enabling Act, Act 33 of 2008. One of the requirements for any of the grants is "the municipality(ies) must be committed to adopting the project's deliverables into its Master Plan..." I believe by passing a resolution stating that the City is committed to adopting the project's deliverables by the due date of December 2020 we strengthen our application and increase the chances of receiving some grant funding.

LIAA requires that each grant has a 1:1 cash match between LIAA and the applicant. LIAA has put an estimated cost of \$5,000-\$40,000 in total for the creation of a new Master Plan chapter. This would mean the City of Norton Shores would be required to pay anywhere from \$2,500-\$20,000 for the Master Plan addition.