



## REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

- AGENDA DATE:** January 13, 2025
- AGENDA ITEM:** Consider adopting a resolution authorizing an application to the MN Department of Iron Range Resources (IRRR) Public Works grant program for the IEDC Forge project.
- PREPARED BY:** Rob Mattei, Director of Community Development
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### **BACKGROUND:**

Itasca Economic Development Corporation (IEDC) developed and operates the Forge, located at 1201 SE 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The Forge is a business workforce incubator and training center operating in partnership with Minnesota North College and other regional stakeholders to assist in the expansion of our local trades workforce to meet the needs of area businesses.

IEDC has requested the City's assistance, through the sponsorship of an application to IRRR for a Public Works grant of \$140,000, for a project to improve building infrastructure and enhance their capacity to provide their services. The project involves utility and HVAC upgrades that are required before IEDC can install more welding and wood working equipment, as well as equipment and improvements to the wood and welding shops.

### **REQUESTED COUNCIL ACTION:**

Make a motion to adopt a resolution authorizing an application to the MN Department of Iron Range Resources (IRRR) Public Works grant program for the IEDC Forge project.