

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission**

ITEM

7

DECISION

TOPIC

An Agreement with the City of Dubuque for Engineering Services and Partial Funding for the EB Lyons Interpretive Center Expansion

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested for an agreement between the Department and the City of Dubuque for the Department to provide engineering services, in the form of construction inspection, and partial funding for an expansion to the EB Lyons Interpretive Center in the Mines of Spain Recreation Area in Dubuque County, Iowa. The agreement is for a not to exceed amount of \$115,000, which includes \$100,000 (Capital Link #169) and an estimated \$15,000 for flooring in DNR offices and interpretive areas in the building (Capital Link #153). The project will be let in August by the City of Dubuque.

The City of Dubuque, in cooperation with the Friends of the Mines of Spain and the Department, is in the process of constructing an expansion to the existing EB Lyons Interpretive Center that will double the useable space and upgrade the existing space. The expansion and remodel will include an auditorium/multi-use space, exhibit areas, offices, an atrium and restrooms on the upper level. The lower level will contain a children's area, animal exhibits, a library, a biology laboratory, restrooms and related mechanical services. A new stair and elevator and a bird observation area are also a part of the new plan.

The building, infrastructure and property are owned by the City of Dubuque and operated by the Department through an existing 28E Agreement. Funding for the project includes grant monies, local donations, Friends of the Mines of Spain, in-kind donations and a legislative appropriation to the DNR. Grants include DOT Scenic Byways, CAT-Vision Iowa, Solid Waste Alternative Program and LAWCON grants to the DNR, City of Dubuque and the Friends.

The Department will be responsible for the inspection of the construction of the addition and remodel of the existing structure, in conjunction with separately contracted projects adjacent to, and a part of, the EB Lyons Interpretive Center. The other projects include water and sewer systems and parking lot paving.

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