



Thomas P. McNamara, Mayor

MEMORANDUM

TO: Finance and Personnel Committee

FROM: Todd Cagnoni, City Administrator

RE: Authorization for reallocation of \$200,000 in partnership with Rockford Area Venue and Entertainment Authority (RAVE) to reduce user costs for community events at Davis Park to Finance and Personnel committee.

DATE: June 8, 2026

For your consideration, is proposed resolution authorizing reallocation of \$200,000 in partnership with Rockford Area Venue and Entertainment Authority (RAVE) to reduce user costs for community events at Davis Park. The funds were previously approved from 2025 Casino tax funds as matching dollars for a DCEO Tourism Grant that was applied for, but not received.

RAVE, City and GoRockford have been working together in preparation of the completion of construction of Davis Park. In an effort to reduce user costs to support future community events at Davis Park, RAVE has prepared a list of items that would otherwise have to be rented by end users driving up costs.

Items to be purchased include:

Audio Package (Includes PA, monitors, audio console, mic package, power cables, & distro),
Lighting Package (Includes moving lights & console)
Trussing for lights and backdrop

City Council previously approved Casino Tax Revenue Plan allocating funds for Arts and Culture and Foundations. Staff finds the proposed funding an opportunity to leverage funds, make Davis Park more financially accessible and consistent with Arts and Culture and Foundation goals and recommends approval of the attached resolution.

Should you have any questions, please let me know.

RESOLUTION APPROVING FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT UP TO \$200,000 GRANT IN PARTNERSHIP WITH RAVE FOR DAVIS PARK AUDIO AND LIGHTING.

Resolution No: _____

WHEREAS, the Rockford Area Venue and Entertainment Authority (RAVE) manages Davis Park for the benefit of the community; and

WHEREAS, funding for the purpose of advancing economic development and cost reduction efforts to support entertainment and community events at Davis Park is consistent with the allocation of casino tax funds; and

WHEREAS, the City of Rockford, Illinois and RAVE will use the funds to purchase; Audio Package (Includes PA, monitors, audio console, mic package, power cables, & distro), Lighting Package (Includes moving lights & console), and Trusses for lighting at Davis Park; and

WHEREAS, RAVE will receive up to \$200,000 for such purchases; and

WHEREAS, the City of Rockford has certain monies allocated for the above-referenced project from the 2025 casino funds previously committed for matching funds up to \$200,000.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall be in full force and effective immediately upon its adoption.

The above and foregoing Resolution was adopted by the City Council of the City of Rockford, Illinois, this _____ day of June 2026.

Thomas P. McNamara, Mayor
City of Rockford, Illinois

ATTEST:

Angela Hammer, Legal Director and
Ex Officio Keeper of the Records and Seal of the
City of Rockford, Illinois

RECOMMENDATION FOR RESOLUTION

TO THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROCKFORD:

Council Members:

The Committee on Finance and Personnel having received a request hereby begs leave to report recommending **approval** of the Authorization for reallocation of \$200,000 in partnership with Rockford Area Venue and Entertainment Authority (RAVE) to reduce user costs for community events at Davis Park. The Legal Director shall prepare the appropriate resolution.

Kevin Frost (Chair)

Chad Tuneberg (Vice Chair)

Frank Beach

Dawn Granath

Jaime Salgado

Committee Action Taken:

Frost:	Ayes:___	Nays:___	Absent:___
Tuneberg:	Ayes:___	Nays:___	Absent:___
Beach:	Ayes:___	Nays:___	Absent:___
Granath:	Ayes:___	Nays:___	Absent:___
Salgado:	Ayes:___	Nays:___	Absent:___