

News Release



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City of Minneapolis Receives Capital Grant for Layman's/Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery

November 24, 2008 (Minneapolis) -- The City of Minneapolis was awarded a grant of \$100,000 to assist with the first phase of a multi-year project that will restore the fence at the Layman's/Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery, located at 2925 Cedar Ave. S., Minneapolis. The prominent steel fence and limestone pillars along Lake St. and Cedar Ave. will be repaired. The grant is from the State Capital Projects Grant-in-Aid County and Local Preservation program, through the Minnesota Historical Society on behalf of the Minnesota State Legislature.

This matching grant moves the City closer to funding a restoration of the original historic fence, rather than installing a lesser replacement and helps close the gap on maintaining a key component of the landmark's historic identity and integrity. The City of Minneapolis net debt bond (CLIC) funds have been allocated for the deteriorating fence.

Layman's/Pioneers and Soldiers Cemetery plays a key role in the cultural diversity of Minneapolis. To raise awareness of the challenges of maintaining this landmark, the Preservation Alliance of Minnesota placed the cemetery on its "Ten Most Endangered Historic Places List" in 2008. The cemetery is also listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

The grant program is administered by the Society's historic preservation department and assists county and local jurisdictions with historic preservation projects of a capital nature. Recipients of these grants are public entities with publicly owned properties.

Since 1969 the State of Minnesota has appropriated funds to encourage the development of historical organizations and historical programming, and for the preservation, restoration and stabilization of irreplaceable, historically significant buildings that are open to the public.

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