


OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER  
DES MOINES, IOWA

CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION 96-029  
JANUARY 15, 1996 AGENDA

SUBJECT:	TYPE:	PREPARED BY:	SUBMITTED BY:
RIVER BEND NEIGHBORHOOD NOMINATIONS TO THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES	◆ RESOLUTION ORDINANCE RECEIVE/FILE	JIM GRANT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR	 ERIC A. ANDERSON CITY MANAGER

## SYNOPSIS —

On December 10, 1995, the State Historical Society of Iowa notified staff that the State Nominations Review Committee (SNRC) plans to consider the following districts and properties, which are located in the City of Des Moines in the River Bend Neighborhood, for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places during their February 9, 1996, meeting:

- *Sixth and Forest Historic District*, Intersection of 6th Avenue and Forest Avenue;
- *"The Oaklands" Historic District*, Oakland and Arlington Avenues from Franklin to College Avenues;
- *Riverview Park Plat Historic District*, Arlington and Franklin Avenues from 6th Avenue to 2nd Avenue;
- *Bates Park Historic District*, 4th Street, Oakland to Clark;
- *Byron A. Beeson House*, 1503 5th Avenue;
- *C.H. Baker Double House*, 1700-1702 6th Avenue;
- *Dr. Anna E. and Andrew A. Johnstone House*, 1830 8th Street;
- *Kromer Flats*, 1433-1439 6th Avenue;
- *The Maine*, 1635 6th Avenue;
- *The New Lawn*, 1245 6th Avenue;
- *Perry and Brainard Block*, 1601 6th Avenue;
- *Franklin Apartments*, 1811 6th Avenue;
- *The Ayshire Apartments*, 1815 6th Avenue;
- *Trent-Beaver House*, 1802 6th Avenue;
- *William A. and Etta Baum Cottage*, 1604 8th Street;
- *William H. and Alice Bailey House*, 1810 6th Avenue; and
- *William B. Hayes House*, 1547 Arlington Avenue.

On February 10, 1986, the U.S. Department of Interior National Parks Service, in cooperation with the State Historical Society of Iowa, qualified the City of Des Moines as a Certified Local Government. Part of the City of Des Moines' responsibility as a Certified Local Government is reviewing proposed National Register nominations within its jurisdiction to determine if the nominated properties meet the National Register criteria.

The nomination process includes a required 60-day period in which the Certified Local Government has the opportunity to provide comments and recommendations on the nominations to the National Register of Historic Places. The Des Moines' Historic District Commission reviewed the above nominations at their December 20, 1995, meeting. By a vote of 3-0-1 (Commission member Will Page

abstaining), the Historic District Commission recommended that the above districts and properties be listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The Historic District Commission's recommendation was the first step in this 60-day comment period. The Mayor's recommendations and comments on the nominations are the next step in this process. The City has until February 2, 1996 to submit its recommendations and comments on the nominations to the State Historical Society.

**This action will not require any further regulation or review requirements.** These districts and properties are currently eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. According to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, any agency using federal funds on a project must take into account the effect of the project on any district, site, building, structure, or object that is included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. Section 106 also states that when a district, site, building, structure, or object is listed in the National Register of Historic Places, these review requirements do not increase. The same level of review process is required for both listed and eligible National Register of Historic Places districts and properties. The listing of these districts and properties on the National Register of Historic Places will not increase the amount of review requirements when federal funds are used to alter these districts and properties because these districts and properties are already eligible for the National Register of Historic Places and are already subject to these requirements.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT —**

The listing of the above districts and properties on the National Register of Historic Places will not have an impact upon the City's budget.

#### **RECOMMENDATION —**

**Approval of the above listed districts and properties to the National Register of Historic Places.**

#### **BACKGROUND —**

On October 25, 1993, by Roll Call No. 93-4033, Council adopted the City's 1994 Community Development Statement of Objectives and Projected Use of Funds. That adoption included the determination that the River Bend National Register of Historic Places Nomination Project, which is designed to promote neighborhood revitalization and recognition and preserve historically and architecturally significant structures in the River Bend neighborhood, supports and enhances the City's community development objectives.

On March 21, 1994, by Roll Call No. 94-941, Council approved the City Project Work Program and Terms and Conditions for \$29,808 of 1994 CDBG funds and the City's Community Development Department agreed to carry out the project. The CDBG funds were used to hire a consultant to prepare the nomination forms to list the above districts and properties on the National Register of Historic Places. The River Bend Association Historic Preservation Subcommittee has participated in the process of nominating these districts onto the National Register of Historic Places.