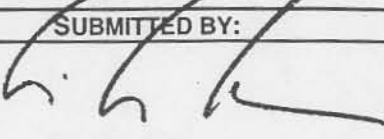


OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
DES MOINES, IOWA

ITEM 41

CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION 96-055
FEBRUARY 5, 1996 AGENDA

SUBJECT:	TYPE:	PREPARED BY:	SUBMITTED BY:
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT CONTRACT DEVELOPMENT	◆ RESOLUTION ORDINANCE RECEIVE/FILE	RICHARD WRIGHT COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR	 ERIC A. ANDERSON CITY MANAGER

SYNOPSIS —

In order to prioritize staff time and reduce administrative time attendant to the development and approval of Community Development Block Grant contracts, staff have developed a modified procedure for approval of CDBG activities operated by City departments.

The modification would eliminate a duplicate step and reduce administrative overhead by authorizing the City Manager to implement City department-operated projects and amendments upon Council approval.

FISCAL IMPACT —

Not quantifiable, the City administers 131 federally-funded projects, 42 of which are operated by City departments. However, processing time would be reduced which, in turn, would improve operational efficiencies.

RECOMMENDATION —

Approval of revised procedure.

BACKGROUND —

CDBG projects go through an extensive citizen review process which results in Des Moines Action Board and Neighborhood Advisory Board recommendations to the Council for funding.

Following Council approval of allocations, Community Services staff assist nonprofit agencies and City departments in the development of work programs for Council approval and, under the current procedure, these work programs are submitted again for Council approval.

The proposed process would eliminate this last step for City projects. Council action would continue to be required for agreements with agencies outside City government as required by Federal regulations. Council approval of City-operated work programs is not required by Federal regulations. A substantial reduction in processing time could be achieved if authority for approval of work programs for projects operated by City departments was given to the City Manager, as Council approval has already occurred when the Council approves allocations and gives the City Manager the responsibility of implementing the programs.

The proposed modification would not change the current structure for citizen input. Significant changes would be reviewed by the NAB or DMAB as they have been in the past prior to being submitted to the City Manager. Substantial changes, which require Council approval, would also be processed as in the past. This is similar to the approval process for Disaster Relief activities which the Council approved on March 20, 1995.