

**OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER  
DES MOINES, IOWA**

**CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION 96-246  
JUNE 17, 1996 AGENDA**

SUBJECT:	TYPE:	SUBMITTED BY:
PUBLIC NOTICE PERIOD— SALE OF CERTAIN VACANT LOTS	◆ RESOLUTION ORDINANCE RECEIVE/FILE	SCOTT STRICKER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATOR

**SYNOPSIS —**

On the June 17, 1996, Council agenda is a roll call providing for a shortened public notice period from at least 30 days to a minimum four-day and maximum 20-day period prior to the City Council's public hearings on the sale of 11 vacant *excess property* lots to specific purchasers. These lots are being sold for single-family residential or adjacent sideyard uses; they are located in urban renewal areas with a very low level of activity because a majority of the proposed activities have been completed by the City. The appropriate neighborhood group will review the proposal to purchase before it comes to the Council for final approval.

**FISCAL IMPACT —**

N/A

**RECOMMENDATION —**

Approval of the roll call which provides for a shortened public notice period prior to the Council's public hearing on the sale of certain vacant excess properties located in urban renewal areas and the guidelines for such sales.

**BACKGROUND —**

In February, the City Council approved the guidelines and documents relating to the sale of 11 vacant properties. Under the current guidelines, the Council receives a proposal to purchase a vacant property and authorizes a public notice of its intent to enter into a sales contract with a specific entity. The public notice period is a minimum of 30 days prior to the Council's public hearing on the proposed sale.

Staff is proposing a shorter bid period of a minimum notice period of four days and no more than 20 days prior to the public hearing. This time period is in accordance with the Code of Iowa's required public notice period for sale of excess property. The proposed shorter public notice period will permit potential buyers to submit proposals to purchase the vacant excess properties this summer and get construction underway before the winter.