

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

**CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION 96-276  
JULY 1, 1996 AGENDA**

SUBJECT:	TYPE:	SUBMITTED BY:
TREE TRIMMING SERVICES— TASK FORCE REPORT	RESOLUTION ORDINANCE ◆ RECEIVE/FILE	MIKE MATTHES MANAGEMENT INTERN CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

**SYNOPSIS —**

On December 18, 1995, by Roll Call No. 95-4750, the City Council voted to create a citizen's task force to evaluate the need for and feasibility of licensing private tree trimmers.

The Iowa Arborist Association has recommended implementation of a licensing program for private tree trimmers to promote competency and protect the public. A task force of state and local officials, arborists, private tree trimmers, and citizens was created to evaluate the need for and feasibility of a licensing program. This task force was to report to Council by June 30, 1996.

The Task Force has concluded that a licensing program is not necessary at this time. Rather, the Task Force recommends the Public Works Department create a list of tree care operators who perform their operations in accordance with American National Standards Institute (ANSI) A300 pruning standards. This list will be maintained by the Public Works Department and will be made available to the public upon request. Staff will call a meeting of the Task Force annually in May to review the effectiveness of the program and make recommendations to the City Council and City Manager.

**FISCAL IMPACT —**

Staff anticipates that the annual cost for printing and distribution of educational materials will be less than \$1,000.

**RECOMMENDATION —**

Adoption of task force recommendation.