

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER  
DES MOINES, IOWA

CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION 96-487  
NOVEMBER 18, 1996 AGENDA

SUBJECT:	TYPE:	SUBMITTED BY:
WOODLAND CEMETERY ENDOWMENT FUND	◆ RESOLUTION ORDINANCE RECEIVE/FILE	DON TRIPP PARK AND RECREATION DIRECTOR

**SYNOPSIS —**

To authorize staff to work with Gerald LaBlanc, local cemetery historian and tour guide, to establish an endowment fund for Woodland Cemetery.

**FISCAL IMPACT —**

This long range effort would raise private funds to repair private mausoleums and monuments within Woodland Cemetery. The fiscal impact will be new revenues of an unknown amount. Only interest will fund the improvements. The fund would be established within the framework of the City's accounting system.

**RECOMMENDATION —**

Approve the endowment fund proposal.

**BACKGROUND —**

Mr. LaBlanc was given City Council authorization in March of 1995 to fund-raise \$30,000 in private monies to immediately repair monuments in Woodland Cemetery. To date Mr. LaBlanc has raised approximately \$8,000. A priority repair list has been established with the help of Park and Recreation Department cemetery staff, and improvements have already been made utilizing these funds. Mr. LaBlanc, however, has seen the need for raising very large sums of money to help maintain the many mausoleums and larger memorials in historic Woodland Cemetery far into the future. An endowment fund would be one means to accomplish this. Only interest from the growing principal would be used to make future improvements. On October 8, 1996, the Park and Recreation Board at its regular monthly meeting did approve this request by Resolution #11773.