



## **Council Communication No. 97-270**

### **SYNOPSIS –**

Approving a contract for Weed and Seed funds to the John R. Grubb Community YMCA to provide Safe Haven community policing activities at the John R. Grubb Community YMCA.

### **FISCAL IMPACT –**

Executive Office for Weed and Seed (EOWS) funds in the amount of \$19,000 will be utilized.

### **RECOMMENDATION –**

**Approve the contract with the John R. Grubb Community YMCA to provide Safe Haven community policing activities at the John R. Grubb Community YMCA for \$19,600 in EOWS funding for activities consistent with the Weed and Seed Plan.**

### **BACKGROUND –**

On December 21, 1994, the City of Des Moines was notified that a portion of Des Moines was designated an Enterprise Community (EC) by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and the City received funding from HUD in the amount of \$2.9 million for the City' s Enterprise Community Strategic Plan.

On November 20, 1995, by Roll Call No. 95-4424, the City Council approved a Memorandum of Agreement between the City of Des Moines, the State of Iowa, and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development which incorporates the Enterprise Community Strategic Plan and the benchmarks which measure the progress of major projects contained in the Enterprise Community Strategic Plan.

The Department of Justice and other federal agencies are implementing Operation Weed and Seed, a comprehensive and integrated multi-agency approach to addressing violent crime, drug abuse, and deteriorating social and economic opportunities in low-income neighborhoods.

The Weed and Seed Plan was integrated into the Enterprise Community Strategic Plan with the Weed and Seed boundaries being contiguous with those of the Enterprise Community and the Weed and Seed goals based on those of the Enterprise Community Plan.

The City of Des Moines, in conjunction with the U.S. Attorney' s Office, neighborhood

representatives and associations, and community services providers desire to implement within the community a Weed and Seed Program with the goal of obtaining federal funding to support this effort.

On September 25, 1995, by Roll Call No. 95-3692, the City of Des Moines submitted an application to be designated a Weed and Seed Site. In February 1996, the City of Des Moines was notified that a portion of the City of Des Moines had been designated a Weed and Seed Site.

On August 5, 1996, by Roll Call No. 96-2799, the City Council approved an application for \$125,000 in Weed and Seed funds from the U.S. Department of Justice. In October 1996, the City was notified that we had received the funds for which we applied. Tutoring and enrichment activities are identified as services to be contracted in the grant application.

The John R. Grubb Community YMCA is the designated Safe Haven for the Des Moines Weed and Seed Site. It is necessary to ensure that a safe environment for Safe Haven activities exists at the Grubb YMCA. The Grubb YMCA has submitted a project application consisting of activities which are consistent with Weed and Seed Plan and may be undertaken with U.S. Department of Justice funds. The Community Development Department staff has negotiated a contract with the John R. Grubb Community YMCA to carry out the Safe Haven community policing activities in accordance with all the terms and conditions of this contract, in consideration of an amount not to exceed \$19,600 to be contributed by the City from its Weed and Seed funds.