

**CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION 98-051
FEBRUARY 16, 1998 AGENDA**

SUBJECT:

OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL

SUBMITTED BY:

**KEVIN RIPER
FINANCE DIRECTOR**

SYNOPSIS –

Tom Vlassis, (2-R), City Council Member, to Washington, DC, from March 6, 1998 to March 9, 1998, to attend the 75th Congressional City Conference for 1998 where local elected officials are provided with concurrent technical workshops of benefit to cities. This is their annual meeting. This is the City' s opportunity to be part of a unified and powerful local voice in Washington, DC, where national decisions are made that affect Des Moines and other cities every day. Council Member Vlassis is on the National League of Cities Economic Development Steering Committee.

Bruce Bergman, (2-R), Corporation Counsel, to Washington, DC, from March 25, 1998 to March 31, 1998, to attend the International Municipal Lawyers Association Mid-Year Seminar, “ Looking Out for Local Interests in the Federal System” . The seminar will provide information regarding sign regulations, telecommunication issues, zoning, economic development, and affirmative action issues.

John Bellizzi, (0-N/R), Public Works Director, to Atlanta, Georgia, from March 21, 1998 to March 26, 1998, to attend a conference co-sponsored by the Asphalt Contractors of America, the Asphalt Institute, and the Federal Highway Administration. The purpose of the conference will be to learn about the latest insights, strategies, and technologies for asphaltic concrete construction, as well as explore the latest equipment and products through participation in demonstrations. The information obtained will enhance the City' s extensive asphaltic concrete construction program.

FISCAL IMPACT –

Cost of travel is \$1,350, \$1,400, and \$1,600, respectively. Funding for these trips is provided for in the 1997-98 Operating Budget under Index Code 015511, page 339; Index Code 019919, page 541; and Index Code 019919, page 541, respectively.

The total expended on City travel from July 1, 1997 through February 11, 1998, is \$185,846.98; the total amount budgeted for City travel is approximately \$370,000.

RECOMMENDATION –

Approval.

BACKGROUND –

On January 20, 1992, by Roll Call No. 92-214, the City Council approved a revision to the policy for travel authorization requests. Such revision requires trips which exceed three days and \$1,250 cost to be approved by the Council. The number in parenthesis indicates the total number of trips previously authorized for that individual for the current budget year; R represents resident and N/R represents non-resident.