

**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:**

ITEM _____

98-114

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

AGENDA:

APRIL 6, 1998

SYNOPSIS –

SUBJECT:

FORMAL
RECOGNITION OF
KIRKWOOD GLEN
NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION

The City Council approved the City’ s Neighborhood Recognition Policy, which provides the opportunity for the City to officially recognize neighborhoods and their organizations located and functioning within the City. The Kirkwood Glen Neighborhood Association has completed an application for recognition.

TYPE:

**RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE**

This application was approved by the Neighborhood Revitalization Board (NRB) at their meeting on March 18, 1998. In accordance with the policy, each recognized neighborhood and its organization will receive a proclamation from the Mayor and the City Council.

SUBMITTED BY:

JAMES GRANT
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
DIRECTOR

FISCAL IMPACT –

N/A

RECOMMENDATION –

Staff recommends approval of the Kirkwood Glen Neighborhood Association as a Recognized Neighborhood with a conditional note. Their present boundaries will create an area of underrepresented citizens due east of their organization. Efforts made by both Kirkwood Glen Neighborhood Organization and Citizen for Community Improvement to organize this area had little success. Because of the shared qualities of these two areas, at such time as the island to the east organizes and seeks to become a recognized neighborhood these two areas will become one organization.

BACKGROUND –

On May 24, 1993, by Roll Call No. 93-2026, the City Council approved the Neighborhood Recognition Policy as recommended by the Neighborhood Advisory Board (NAB). The intent of this policy is to assist citizens of Des Moines sharing common identity, goals, and concerns to form an organization which will be formally recognized by City government boards, committees, and councils and will act as an advisory body when dealing with decisions made by the City and its entities. The policy recognizes that the long-term stability of a neighborhood depends on the existence of a strong neighborhood based organization able to demonstrate broad grass roots participation and the ability to provide leadership and command respect in working with the City and other public and private interests.

To implement this policy, Planning staff developed a strategy of providing information about the policy and requesting information from neighborhood organizations. Organizations wishing recognition must submit the following information: 1) official name of the organization, 2) detailed neighborhood boundaries, 3) a list of the organization's representatives with their address and telephone number, 4) a journal of meetings held to establish the organization, and 5) a copy of the organization's by-laws. The Kirkwood Glen Neighborhood Association has completed an application and is now eligible for official recognition with the recommendation that because of the shared qualities of Kirkwood Glen and the area to the east, at such time as the area to the east organizes and seeks to become a recognized neighborhood these two areas will become one organization. This recommendation was presented to the NRB at the March 18, 1998 meeting. The NRB action for recognition of the Kirkwood Glen Neighborhood Association was approved at said meeting with the above stated recommendation.

According to the Neighborhood Recognition Policy, "Upon official recognition of a neighborhood organization by the City Council, the Mayor shall formally proclaim the recognized neighborhood as an important entity to be utilized by the Council in seeking direction on actions which affect the identified neighborhood and the City will also seek additional coverage through other press releases." In addition, "Whenever mailed notices to adjoining property owners is required by law or by City ordinance or policy, the City will reasonably attempt to also provide notice to any affected neighborhood

organization."

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