



**CITY COUNCIL  
COMMUNICATION:**

**ITEM \_\_\_\_\_**

**98-170**

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

**AGENDA:**  
APRIL 27, 1998

**SYNOPSIS —**

To approve naming the Greater Des Moines Soccer Park to the James W. Cownie Soccer Park.

**SUBJECT:**  
NAMING GREATER  
DES MOINES  
SOCCER PARK  
AFTER JAMES W.  
COWNIE

**FISCAL IMPACT –**

N/A

**TYPE:**  
*RESOLUTION*  
ORDINANCE  
RECEIVE/FILE

**RECOMMENDATION –**

**Approve naming the Greater Des Moines Soccer Park to the James W. Cownie Soccer Park.**

**SUBMITTED BY:**  
DON TRIPP  
PARK AND  
RECREATION  
DEPARTMANT

**BACKGROUND –**

The Park and Recreation Board recommends naming the Greater Des Moines Soccer Park after James W. Cownie, Jim Cownie’ s father. Mr. Cownie indicated that he would appreciate having the facility named in honor of his father.

James W. Cownie was an active citizen in Des Moines, particularly with youth athletic programs. Mr. Cownie was one of the founders of Little League Baseball in Des Moines and coached one of the first teams with Bill Reichardt. As a member of the Board of Directors, Mr. Cownie helped raise money to build the first ballpark in the Des Moines area.

Jim S. Cownie, James’ son, was the fund-raising chairperson for the Greater Des Moines Sports Parks and has been a strong civic-minded leader for the City of Des Moines Parks. Through Jim’ s efforts, the private fund-raising campaign raised over \$2,000,000. Jim is actively involved in the Des Moines community, serving on past and present boards for Dowling-St. Joseph Foundation, Des Moines Diocesan Development

Committee, Mercy Hospital, Des Moines Development Corporation, Metro YMCA, Des Moines Vision Plan, GreaterDes Moines United Way, Des Moines Community Foundation, and Convention and Visitors Bureau.

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