

**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:**

ITEM _____

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

98-506

SYNOPSIS -

AGENDA:

Request to establish Ad Hoc Committee to evaluate appropriate access to area south of Court Avenue from skywalk.

NOVEMBER 2, 1998

SUBJECT:

FISCAL IMPACT -

ACCESS TO AREA SOUTH
OF COURT AVENUE

Approximately \$10,000 of staff time.

TYPE:

RECOMMENDATION -

**RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE**

Council approval of Ad Hoc Committee charged with the task of evaluating appropriate access to area south of Court Avenue from skywalk. The Ad Hoc Committee would be made up of Randy Africano, Dave Feehan, Bill Dikis, Marcia Grant, Red Brannan, George Milligan, Jim Hubbell, Bill Knapp II, Ed Mattis, and Rick Clark. The Committee will be staffed by the City's Office of Economic Development and will prepare a report by January 18, 1999.

SUBMITTED BY:

ERIC A. ANDERSON
CITY MANAGER

BACKGROUND -

During discussion of the Entertainment Center proposals, the issue of skywalk access to the area south of Court Avenue was brought up. Council directed me to recommend a process to facilitate access to Court Avenue and the area south of Court Avenue. In order to involve as many representatives of the stakeholders in this issue as possible, an Ad Hoc Committee is the most appropriate way to proceed. The Ad Hoc Committee should be comprised of individuals representing the following interests: the property owners along Court Avenue, Downtown Partnership, the Urban Renewal

Board, the Skywalk Commission, Des Moines Development Corporation, downtown property owners/developers with skywalk experience, a representative of the Downtown Housing Team, the Court Avenue business community, and the City. Three months is not an extended time for them to consider this. However, with the assistance of City staff and the guidance of the previous plans for this area, including the most recently completed Court Avenue plan, they should have sufficient resources for the task in the time available. It is anticipated that the Ad Hoc Committee would report to the Council by January 18, 1999, and then disband.

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