

**CITY COUNCIL  
COMMUNICATION:**

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

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

**98-544**

**SYNOPSIS -**

**AGENDA:**

Formal recognition of the East Village Neighborhood and Merchants Association according to the Neighborhood Recognition Policy.

DECEMBER 7, 1998

**SUBJECT:**

**FISCAL IMPACT -**

RECOGNITION OF THE EAST VILLAGE NEIGHBORHOOD AND MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION

N/A

**RECOMMENDATION -**

**Resolution of Recognition.**

**TYPE:**

**BACKGROUND -**

**RESOLUTION  
ORDINANCE  
RECEIVE/FILE**

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 wishes to recognize the fact that the long-term stability of a neighborhood depends on the existence of strong neighborhood based organizations 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.

**SUBMITTED BY:**

In order to implement this policy, Planning staff developed a strategy that consisted of providing

JAMES M. GRANT  
COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT  
DIRECTOR

information about the policy and requesting information from neighborhood organizations. Organizations who wish to become recognized 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 addresses and telephone numbers, 4) a journal of meetings held to establish the organization, and 5) a copy of the organization's by-laws. The East Village Neighborhood and Merchants 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 Neighborhood Revitalization Board (NRB) at the March 18, 1998 meeting. The NRB action for recognition of the East Village Neighborhood and Merchants 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."