



**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:**

ITEM _____

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

99-150

SYNOPSIS -

AGENDA:

APRIL 5, 1999

Beaver Avenue from the North City Limits to Douglas Avenue is currently designated as a city truck route. Because of the recent completion of streets in the city of Johnston, Beaver Avenue is no longer desirable as a truck route and should be deleted from the city truck route system.

SUBJECT:

BEAVER AVENUE
TRUCK ROUTE
ELIMINATION

FISCAL IMPACT -

N/A

TYPE:

RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE

RECOMMENDATION -

Receive, file, and refer to Legal Department for proper legislation.

SUBMITTED BY:

FLOYD BENTZ, P.E.
ACTING CITY
ENGINEER

BACKGROUND -

At the March 23, 1998 City Council meeting, concerns were expressed that Beaver Avenue and Lower Beaver Road, both traversing through residential neighborhoods, were being used by trucks in order to get from the Johnston industrial area (north of I-35/80) to locations within Des Moines. By Roll Call No. 98-880, Council requested that staff notify these trucking firms regarding this issue, and that Beaver Avenue be considered for elimination as a truck route. Lower Beaver Road is not currently a truck route.

Correspondence was later sent to the affected trucking companies indicating these concerns. These letters stated that since the completion of Johnston Drive from NW Beaver Avenue to Merle Hay Road, north of and parallel to I-35/80, these trucks now have a viable alternative route in Merle Hay Road, and that the City of Des Moines is considering the

elimination of Beaver Avenue as a truck route.

At their March 16, 1999 meeting, the Traffic Safety Committee reviewed this issue. Staff recommended that Beaver Avenue be eliminated as a truck route between Douglas Avenue and the North City Limits. Several businesses that currently utilize Beaver Avenue for their trucks requested that the removal of Beaver Avenue as a city truck route be delayed until the construction is complete at the Merle Hay and I-35/80 interchange. The Committee voted to deny staff's recommendation and that the item should be revisited when the I-35/80 interchange at Merle Hay Road is complete.

If Council wishes to eliminate Beaver Avenue as a truck route now, the following modification to the Municipal Code is necessary:

~~SEC. 27-1503. BEAVER AVENUE.~~

~~Beaver Avenue, from Douglas Avenue to the north corporate limits.~~