

**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:**

ITEM _____

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

99-274

SYNOPSIS -

AGENDA:

JUNE 21, 1999

SUBJECT:

ADDENDUM NO. 1
TO THE URBAN
STANDARD
SPECIFICATIONS
FOR PUBLIC
IMPROVEMENTS,
1998 EDITION

The Urban Standard Specifications for Public Improvements, 1998 Edition, was adopted by the City Council on March 16, 1998, as the standard specifications to be used for public improvements in the City of Des Moines. Revisions are now being proposed to these standard specifications which are to be approved as Addendum No. 1 to the Urban Standard Specifications for Public Improvements, 1998 Edition. Staff recommends adoption of Addendum No. 1 to the Urban Standard Specifications for Public Improvements, 1998 Edition.

FISCAL IMPACT -

N/A

TYPE:

RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE

RECOMMENDATION -

Approval.

SUBMITTED BY:

FLOYD BENTZ, P.E.
CITY ENGINEER

BACKGROUND -

On March 16, 1998, by Roll Call No. 98-719, the City Council adopted the Urban Standard Specifications for Public Improvements, 1998 Edition, as the standard specifications to be used for constructing public improvements within the City. The Urban Standard Specifications for Public Improvements is the product of a joint effort by many local jurisdictions to ensure that public improvements will function adequately, reduce maintenance problems, are durable and safe, and most of all, are cost effective to the public in each jurisdiction using these standard specifications. The cost effectiveness of these Urban Standard Specifications is great, although immeasurable, since all contractors working within the central Iowa area will

be using these same specifications regardless of the jurisdiction where the improvements are constructed.

Since the adoption of the original standard specifications, several changes are necessary due to changes of materials, construction techniques, omissions in the specs, or corrections of typographical errors. A summary of recommended changes is attached to the roll call.

The Urban Standards and Specifications Committee was originally composed of 11 central Iowa communities, the Des Moines and West Des Moines Water Works, Dallas and Polk Counties, and the Greater Des Moines Home Builders Association. Currently, the Urban Standards and Specifications Committee is working to include an even larger number of communities to make these design standards and specifications updates more economical for everyone. In addition, negotiations have begun with the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) for the Urban Standard Specifications for Public Improvements to become a statewide standard specification to be utilized by IDOT and all cities within the State with administration of this document by IDOT.