

**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:**

ITEM _____

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

99-344

SYNOPSIS -

AGENDA:

AUGUST 2, 1999

SUBJECT:

SANITARY SEWER
SERVICE REPAIR IN
FRONT OF 5213
WOODLAND
AVENUE

A construction contract estimated to be \$35,000 is proposed to repair sanitary sewer service connections in the 5200 block of Woodland Avenue. The private sanitary sewer services to two houses at this location have been tested with dye and both have tested positive to a street collapse at this location. The City inspected the City sewer at this location by remote control television and found the sewer to be in excellent condition. It is important to take bids for making necessary repairs to these sanitary sewer services and repair the street so this section of Woodland Avenue can be reopened to traffic.

FISCAL IMPACT -

TYPE:

RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE

Funding for this project is provided in the 1999-2000 Capital Improvements Budget for City Wide Sanitary Lateral Sewers. The cost of these repairs will be assessed against the properties served by these failed sanitary sewer services.

SUBMITTED BY:

FLOYD BENTZ, P.E.
CITY ENGINEER

RECOMMENDATION -

Approval.

BACKGROUND -

On July 2, 1999, the Public Works Department became aware of a street collapse in front of 5213 Woodland Avenue. Subsequent television inspection of the sanitary sewer line revealed that the problem was caused by defective private sewer services. Two separate properties may be contributing to this street collapse since sanitary services to both properties have been tested with dye and have tested positive to the sanitary sewer at this location.

The City notified the two property owners involved with this street collapse to make the necessary repairs under the nuisance abatement section of the municipal code. Under this provision of the municipal code the property owner is allowed 14 days after notice to make the necessary repairs or the City may make such necessary repairs and assess the cost to the property owners. These property owners, therefore, have until August 11, 1999, to make these repairs.

Since the sewer in Woodland Avenue is approximately 20 feet deep, the Public Works Department is unable to make these repairs. In an effort to ensure the timely reopening of Woodland Avenue, Public Works has requested that the Engineering Department prepare plans and specifications to bid the necessary repairs while the City pursues the nuisance abatement procedure. If the Council authorizes the repair project to be bid, and the property owners have failed to make repairs by August 11, 1999, the construction contract could be awarded at the Council meeting of August 16, 1999. If repairs have been made, all bids will be rejected.