

**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:**

ITEM _____

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

99-389

SYNOPSIS -

AGENDA:

SEPTEMBER 13, 1999

To approve submittal of a grant request to the State Historical Society of Iowa for \$40,000 to restore the exterior of the Woodland Cemetery Receiving Vault.

SUBJECT:

GRANT
APPLICATION TO
STATE HISTORICAL
SOCIETY FOR
WOODLAND
CEMETERY
RECEIVING VAULT

FISCAL IMPACT -

The exterior restoration will cost \$80,000. The grant application is for \$40,000. The matching funds will be from the following:

Donation, Callanan Middle School	\$ 8,000
Donation, William R. Windsor Charitable Foundation	25,000
Capital Improvement Program Fund (CIP)	<u>7,000</u>
Total	\$40,000

TYPE:

RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE

RECOMMENDATION -

SUBMITTED BY:

DONALD M. TRIPP
PARK AND
RECREATION
DIRECTOR

Staff recommends approval of the grant application for submittal to the State Historical Society of Iowa.

BACKGROUND -

The Woodland Cemetery Receiving Vault was built in 1882 as a building in which to store bodies until the weather permitted burial. Its restoration has attracted the fundraising attention of Callanan Middle School children as well as private citizens. The building and cemetery have been determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

The firm of Shuck-Britson, Consulting Engineers, completed a Phase 3 structural evaluation on the Receiving Vault in February of 1999 listing needed exterior and interior repairs. The grant and matching funds would be used for the following:

- Reinforce roof beams, cover the roof with a non-permeable material, and replace sod;
- Repair and re-lay the tile gutters moving water away from the roof and walls;
- Reinforce east wall with beams and/or concrete and repair brick veneer;
- Reuse brick salvaged from east wall to replace and repair front of building, tuck-point entire surface, and clean; and
- Landscape the approach to the building front.

The Iowa General Assembly has appropriated funds to the Department of Cultural Affairs for the creation of the Historic Site Preservation Program, for the restoration, preservation, and development of historical sites through the "Rebuild Iowa Infrastructure Program". Projects funded by this program must promote an understanding of the record of human experience within the state and must be eligible for the National Register. The minimum grant is \$40,000 and the grant requires a 1:1 match.