

**CITY COUNCIL  
COMMUNICATION:**

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

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

**99-400**

**SYNOPSIS -**

**AGENDA:**  
SEPTEMBER 13, 1999

Formal recognition of the Greenwood Historic Neighborhood Association according to the Neighborhood Recognition Policy.

**SUBJECT:**

**FISCAL IMPACT -**

RECOGNITION OF  
GREENWOOD  
HISTORIC  
NEIGHBORHOOD  
ASSOCIATION

None.

**RECOMMENDATION -**

**Approval.**

**TYPE:**

**BACKGROUND -**

**RESOLUTION**  
ORDINANCE  
RECEIVE/FILE

The City Council approved the City of Des Moines Neighborhood Recognition Policy. In summary, this policy provides the opportunity for the City to officially recognize neighborhoods and their organizations located and functioning within the City. This policy requested that any neighborhood organization asking to be recognized submit specific information. The Greenwood Historic Neighborhood Association has completed an application for recognition.

**SUBMITTED BY:**

JIM GRANT  
COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT  
DIRECTOR

This application was approved by the Neighborhood Revitalization Board (NRB) at their meeting on September 1, 1999. In accordance with the Policy, each recognized neighborhood and its organization will receive a proclamation from the Mayor and the City Council.

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 a strong neighborhood based organization 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.

In order to implement this policy, Planning staff developed a strategy that consisted of providing information about the policy and requested information from the neighborhood organizations. Organizations who wish to become recognized must submit the following information: 1) official name of organization, 2) detailed neighborhood boundaries, 3) a list of the organization's representatives with their address and telephone number, 4) a journal of meetings held to establish the organization, and 5) a copy of the organization's bylaws. The Greenwood Historic Neighborhood Association has completed an application and is now eligible for official recognition.

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 effects 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 effected neighborhood organizations."