

**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:**

ITEM _____

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

99-493

SYNOPSIS -

AGENDA:

NOVEMBER 1, 1999

Council has taken steps to acquire land in the Western Gateway between Grand Avenue and Locust Street, 10th Street to 15th Street. Although it is not appropriate to undertake a detailed architectural design of this area at this time, it is appropriate to consider the future use of this land. The Gateway Steering Committee has made a recommendation (see attached).

SUBJECT:

WESTERN
GATEWAY
PROPOSED USES

FISCAL IMPACT -

N/A

TYPE:

RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE

RECOMMENDATION -

Receive, file and refer to City Boards and Commissions and appropriate agencies for their consideration of this proposal and their recommendation to Council.

SUBMITTED BY:

ERIC A. ANDERSON
CITY MANAGER

BACKGROUND -

At its meeting of Wednesday, October 27, 1999, the Gateway Steering Committee adopted for recommendation to the City Council a proposal for the five blocks of the Western Gateway between Equitable and Meredith. At the present time, two buildings on the east end of these blocks; i.e.; on 10th Street, have been withheld for reuse. Those two buildings are the Masonic Temple and the old AIB Building. In addition, the Arlington/Hallett Apartments have been withheld from demolition until their potential reuse for housing has been evaluated by interested firms. A decision on the disposition of the Arlington/Hallett Apartments will take place by no later than December 12, 1999.

In the remaining area of the five blocks, the Gateway Steering

Committee recommends the designation of three uses: a learning center, new main library, and a science center. In addition, they recommend the principles on which these uses are based and make recommendations for broad architectural principles and recommend that interim design be undertaken so that the area is attractive and useful between the period of its acquisition and the completed construction of its new proposed uses. The attached page summarizes these recommendations.

Attachment