

**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:**

ITEM _____

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

99-563

SYNOPSIS -

AGENDA:

DECEMBER 20, 1999

SUBJECT:

DESIGNATION OF
CITY'S FEDERAL
EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT
AGENCY (FEMA)
REPRESENTATIVE

TYPE:

RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE

In June and July of 1998, the metropolitan area experienced strong storms that caused significant damage, and large cleanup and damage repair expenses to the City. Following declaration of disaster by President Clinton, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) began, under its Public Assistance Program, to reimburse the City for expenses associated with severe rain and wind storms, commencing June 13, 1998, forward. FEMA has already reimbursed the City expenses related to overtime, equipment costs, reconstruction of infrastructure, contracts, and other miscellaneous unbudgeted expenses. The City is now completing some of the projects and requesting reimbursement for said work. Marshall Grabau, the City's previous designated representative to FEMA, is no longer a City employee; therefore, a new representative needs to be designated in order for the City to receive additional reimbursement.

SUBMITTED BY:

KEVIN RIPER
FINANCE
DIRECTOR

FISCAL IMPACT -

No costs will be incurred by the City for this action; however, approval will facilitate approximately \$1,250,000 to be reimbursed to the City after the last remaining repair projects are completed and the appropriate paperwork has been approved. Over \$2,854,000 has been reimbursed to the City to date.

RECOMMENDATION -

Designation of Kurt A. Rueckel, Finance Department, as the City's authorized representative, and Christopher M. Johansen, also of the Finance Department, as the alternate to negotiate reimbursement with FEMA.

BACKGROUND -

On June 13, 18, 29, and July 6, 1998, the City experienced severe weather events, which caused significant damage as a result of heavy rains, and strong winds of up to 70 mph. Due to the extent of the damage, local, county, and state representatives worked collectively to seek a federal disaster declaration. Based on that request, President Clinton declared the situation a disaster, and in turn, qualified the City for FEMA review and reimbursement of personnel overtime, equipment costs, reconstruction of infrastructure, and contracts. To date, FEMA has approved a total \$4,720,482 in City claims for this storm alone.