

**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:**

ITEM _____

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

99-572

SYNOPSIS -

Agenda:

December 20, 1999

On June 21, 1999, by Roll Call No. 99-1968, the City Council approved an ordinance allowing for the removal of abandoned property on city rights-of-way. The program, generally referred to as the 'Clean Team', contains the following provisions:

Subject:

Clean Team

1. Residents may call 283-4997 to report junk or debris on the right-of-way.
2. Neighborhood Services inspection personnel will inspect the location and report if the debris remains for more than 48 hours.
3. Public Works' crews will remove junk and debris within one to two days of receiving notice from Neighborhood Services personnel.
4. Abutting property owners are billed the cost for the cleanup.

Resolution

Ordinance
Receive/File

Submitted by:

John P. Bellizzi, Public
Works Director

The Clean Team ordinance has significantly reduced the time required to have junk and debris removed as notice requirements have been eliminated.

Fiscal Impact -

All costs associated with inspection, cleanup, and disposal are billed to the abutting property owner.

Recommendation -

Refer to Chief Communications Officer for publication and distribution of Clean Team procedures and phone number.

Background -

To reduce the amount of time junk and debris remains on city rights-of-way, the City Council established the Clean Team. As

a result, junk and debris left on a right-of-way can be removed after 48 hours. The shorter time period is directly related to elimination of notice requirements to the abutting property owner. All costs associated with the program are billed to the abutting property owner.

The Public Works Department continues to afford property owners the opportunity to dispose of large bulk items free of charge by calling the department's Sanitation Office at 283-4595. Property owners may schedule the collection of large items, including appliances. Once scheduled, property owners are directed not to place their items on the parking prior to 7 p.m. the night before their scheduled pickup. In combination, the Public Works Department's bulk waste collection service and the newly formed Clean Team have significantly improved the overall appearance of city rights-of-way. The phone numbers for both these services are currently available at the City of Des Moines' Action Center at 283-4500.

