



**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:**

ITEM _____

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

00-226

SYNOPSIS -

AGENDA:

MAY 15, 2000

To accept a grant for the Evelyn K. Davis Summer Playground and for the Youth In Parks programs from the United Way Operation Summertime Grant Program.

SUBJECT:

PRAIRIE MEADOWS
OPERATION
SUMMERTIME
GRANT

FISCAL IMPACT -

Grant award in the amount of \$4,000 for the Evelyn K. Davis Summer Playground Program. Grant award in the amount of \$10,000 for the Youth In Parks Program.

TYPE:

RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE

RECOMMENDATION -

Approve acceptance of grants from the United Way Operation Summertime Grant Program for the Evelyn K. Davis Summer Playground Program (\$4,000) and for the Youth In Parks Program (\$10,000).

SUBMITTED BY:

DONALD M. TRIPP
PARK AND
RECREATION
DIRECTOR

BACKGROUND -

On April 17, 2000, the City Council, by Roll Call No. 00-1107, approved the submittal of two grants to the Prairie Meadows Operation Summertime Grant Program, managed by United Way. On May 2, 2000, the City was informed that it had been awarded two grants in the amount of \$4,000 (Evelyn K. Davis Park Summer Program) and \$10,000 (Youth In Parks Program), respectively.

The 2000 Operation Summertime Agreement, which is on file in the City Clerk's office, indicates that the grant monies will be distributed on June 1, 2000. In accepting the grant, the City will be required to acknowledge the United Way of Central Iowa and Prairie Meadows as funders of these projects and submit a written report on the outcomes of the programs funded.

Since 1993, the Park and Recreation Department has been offering a summer playground program at Evelyn K. Davis Park. Private gifts, Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Weed and Seed grants funded the program. Also, staff has secured numerous in-kind services, i.e., MTA trolley, local church and civic organizations. The program provides meals and services to youth Monday through Friday, during daytime hours. Activities include arts, crafts, field trips, education, and cultural events. AmeriCorps members have created strong relationships with area churches, Neighborhood Associations, YMCA, and local civic groups to build the program, which serve over 125 youth in the area on a daily basis.

The Youth In Parks Program is a series of two-week camps throughout the summer for middle school teens. The youth assist the Parks Department by completing community beautification projects in the morning. In the afternoon, the youth participate in a recreational activity, such as swimming or visiting the Zoo. Youth participating in this program learn the importance of community service. The various recreational opportunities reward the individuals for their efforts. The requested grant funds are needed to support the salary of the summer staff, van transportation, and equipment needs. A fee of \$25 is charged to participants. Since program inception, over 9,000 hours of community service have been performed.