

**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:**

ITEM _____

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

00-255

SYNOPSIS -

AGENDA:

JUNE 5, 2000

The Oakridge Neighborhood has submitted a Certification of Consistency with the City's 2000 Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Consolidated Plan which requires Council's approval. The aforementioned certification is required as part of Oakridge's application to HUD for a renewal of funding for their Safe Neighborhood grant.

SUBJECT:

APPROVAL OF
CERTIFICATION OF
CONSISTENCY FOR
THE OAKRIDGE
NEIGHBORHOOD

FISCAL IMPACT -

Not applicable.

TYPE:

RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE

RECOMMENDATION -

Approval.

SUBMITTED BY:

JAMES GRANT
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
DIRECTOR

BACKGROUND -

The Oakridge Neighborhood proposes to apply for renewal of their HUD Safe Neighborhood grant. The resources of the grant have impacted the Oakridge Neighborhood and the surrounding agencies, businesses, and neighborhood.

The current proposal has a distinctive focus, based on the results of the past two years and evaluation by police, residents, security, resident manager, and neighbors. Along with this will be an effort to strengthen communication with the Des Moines Police Department (DMPD) through a number of strategies: Access to information, technology implementation, quarterly participation in partner meetings (security, DMPD, etc.), training, quarterly focus meetings with the West Side Safety Coalition. Communication will also be a focus for the various impact groups: Oakridge Security and DMPD interacting with residents, staff, neighbors, and agencies in the neighborhood. Scheduled meetings will occur quarterly where

common issues will be discussed, goals set, and progress evaluated. It is also predicted that more communication and more planning will result in more shared activities and programs.

The second major focus will be the improved lighting for resident safety and to improve camera visibility. There is need for additional cameras and a centralized monitoring system.

The third major focus will be support of the Oakridge Neighborhood Network, which has served the neighborhood for five years. The Oakridge Neighborhood Network provides a critical component that serves their child development program, youth program, and adult program. Computer literacy is a needed skill for youth in their educational careers and for adults moving into the workforce. The Oakridge Neighborhood Network has significantly impacted many individuals (children, youth, and adults) throughout the past five years. It is providing families in poverty an individual opportunity.