



**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:**

ITEM _____

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

00-502

SYNOPSIS -

AGENDA:

NOVEMBER 6, 2000

Formal recognition of the Fairmont Park Neighborhood Association according to the Neighborhood Recognition Policy.

SUBJECT:

FISCAL IMPACT -

RECOGNITION OF
FAIRMONT PARK
NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION

None

RECOMMENDATION -

Approval.

TYPE:

BACKGROUND -

RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE

On May 24, 1993, by Roll Call Number 93-2026, the City Council approved the Neighborhood Recognition Policy as recommended by the Neighborhood Advisory Board (NAB). In summary, this policy provides the opportunity for the City to officially recognize neighborhoods and their organizations located and functioning within the City. This policy requested that any neighborhood organization asking to be recognized submit specific information.

SUBMITTED BY:

JIM GRANT
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
DIRECTOR

The intent of the Neighborhood Recognition Policy is to assist citizens of Des Moines sharing common identity, goals, and concerns to form an organization which will be formally recognized by city government boards, committees and councils and will act as an advisory body when dealing with decisions made by the City and its entities. The policy wishes to recognize the fact that the long-term stability of a neighborhood depends on the existence of strong neighborhood based organizations being able to demonstrate broad grass roots participation and the ability to provide leadership and command respect in working with the City and other public and private interests.

In order to implement this policy, Planning staff developed a strategy that consisted of providing information about the policy and requested information from the neighborhood organizations. Organizations who wish to become recognized must submit the following information: 1) official name of organization, 2) detailed neighborhood boundaries, 3) a list of the organization's representatives with their address and telephone number, 4) the location and time of their membership meetings, and 5) a copy of the organization's bylaws.

The Fairmont Park Neighborhood Association has completed an application for recognition. This application was recommended for approval by the Neighborhood Revitalization Board (NRB) at their meeting on October 4, 2000.

The recognition of Fairmont Park Neighborhood Association appeared on the October 16, 2000 Council agenda. Due to objections regarding Fairmont's boundaries, it was deferred until a solution could be reached. On October 23, 2000, Council Member McPherson held a meeting with neighborhood representatives and staff to develop a compromise. All parties at this meeting agreed upon moving Fairmont's eastern boundary from East 33rd Street to Hubbell Avenue.

According to the Neighborhood Recognition Policy, "Upon official recognition of a neighborhood organization by the City Council, the Mayor shall formally proclaim the recognized neighborhood as an important entity to be utilized by the Council in seeking direction on actions which affects the identified neighborhood and the City will also seek additional coverage through other press releases." In addition, "Whenever mailed notices to adjoining property owners is required by law or by City ordinance or policy, the City will reasonably attempt to also provide notice to any affected neighborhood organizations."