

Meeting Agendas/Info

CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:

ITEM _____

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

01-064

SYNOPSIS -

AGENDA:

FEBRUARY 12, 2001

Approval of an ordinance change to Section 102-618, License Fees for Encroachments Under, Upon or in Public Property, that would increase the fee for issuing public bench permits. This change would increase the permit fee, which is currently \$15, to \$20.

SUBJECT:

ORDINANCE CHANGE
TO INCREASE BUS
BENCH PERMIT FEES

In addition to the ordinance change, this is a request for approval of annual renewals for the two existing bench companies, and installation of new benches by a new company, all at the new \$20 permit fee.

TYPE:

FISCAL IMPACT -

RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE

Based on an estimate of existing benches, the expected increase in bus bench permit revenue is approximately \$1,500. The fee for the new company at the new fee rate is \$9,330, bringing the total increase in bus bench revenue to \$10,830 annually.

SUBMITTED BY:

FLOYD BENTZ, P.E.
CITY ENGINEER

RECOMMENDATION -

Approval.

BACKGROUND -

Fees for bus benches have not changed since 1975. Currently, bus bench permits include a flat fee of \$15 per bench per year. In June 2000, at the request of Council to investigate the last time the City increased fees for bus bench permits, City Manager Eric Anderson recommended increasing this fee 33 percent to \$20 per year. This fee would be the same as other flat fee areaway permits.

Currently, there are two bus bench companies that obtain annual

bus bench permits. These companies are Signature Communications (Frank Hayer, President, 3378 Raccoon Ridge, Adel, Iowa 50003) with 33 benches and Tran-Sit Bench Company (Jan Johnson, President, 765 Foster Drive, Des Moines, Iowa 50312) with 240 benches. The companies are responsible for installation and maintenance of the benches and have been notified of the proposed ordinance change that would increase their permit fees.

A new bus bench company, Bench Ads, L.C. (Scott E. Thomas, President, 1412 - 41st Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50311) has applied for a new annual bus bench license and permits to install and maintain a total of 453 new bus benches in Des Moines. They have also been notified of the proposed fee increase.

On the Council agenda are separate roll calls approving the ordinance change to increase the permit fee, approving the annual renewals for the two existing bus bench companies, and approving the license and permits for one new bus bench company.