

Meeting Agendas/Info

CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:

ITEM _____

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

01-243

SYNOPSIS -

AGENDA:

On the May 7, 2001 agenda, the Council is asked to:

MAY 7, 2001

1. Receive and file the communication from Mary Sellers, Executive Director of the Science Center of Iowa, Inc., indicating its choice for the location of the new Science Center is in downtown Des Moines.

SUBJECT:

2. Express a strong preference for the Science Center to be located in the Court Avenue area and to direct staff to provide assistance to the Science Center in identifying a specific site.

SUPPORT FOR
SCIENCE CENTER

3. Provide a preliminary commitment of land and the associated infrastructure to the Science Center.

TYPE:

RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE

FISCAL IMPACT -

Not known at this time. The City will review its available land inventory in tandem with the Science Center's building needs. At the time when the specific property and infrastructure are identified, costs will be communicated to the Council.

SUBMITTED BY:

ERIC A. ANDERSON
CITY MANAGER

RECOMMENDATION -

1. Receive and file the letter from Ms. Sellers.

2. Express a strong preference for the Science Center to be located in the Court Avenue area and to direct staff to provide assistance to the Science Center in identifying a specific site.

3. Provide a preliminary commitment of land and the associated infrastructure to the Science Center.

4. Provide a letter to the Science Center outlining the City Council's action.

BACKGROUND -

The Science Center is currently located in a 28,400 square foot building in Greenwood-Ashworth Park. This structure, built in 1970, is inadequate for its program needs.

The Board of the Science Center has spent the past eight months exploring options for expansion at the current site as well as relocation to other sites. The communication received by the Council states that it has narrowed its process to two sites in the downtown: one in the Court Avenue area and the other in the Gateway Proper.

In addition, the letter also requests the City provide in-kind assistance to the Science Center in its relocation; a contribution of the land and associated infrastructure is requested.
