

Meeting Agendas/Info

CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:

ITEM _____

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

01-259

SYNOPSIS -

AGENDA:

MAY 21, 2001

The Council is asked to approve and release a Request for Proposals (RFP) soliciting consultant bids for the survey of the Eastern Gateway to identify the boundaries of a historic district and, if a district is identified, to complete the nomination of the district to the National Register of Historic Places.

SUBJECT:

REQUEST FOR
PROPOSALS FOR
HISTORIC DISTRICT
IN EASTERN
GATEWAY

FISCAL IMPACT -

The survey is expected to cost not more than \$15,000. Funding will come from the Gateway project budget.

TYPE:

RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE

RECOMMENDATION -

Approval.

SUBMITTED BY:

RICHARD CLARK
DEPUTY CITY
MANAGER

BACKGROUND -

At their March 21, 2001 meeting, the Gateway Steering Committee approved the use of Gateway project funds to hire a consultant to carry out the described work for an amount not to exceed \$15,000.

The Capitol Gateway East Urban Design Plan was completed in 1997. This plan established 12 recommendations for action. The fourth recommendation was to create a revitalization district centered on East 5th and Locust Streets. In 1999, the Community Development Department retained the services of a consultant team to prepare a development concept and implementation strategy for the block between East 4th and East 5th Streets, between East Grand and East Locust. The consultant team recommended a development concept for the block that included the rehabilitation of the existing buildings as well as new infill construction.

Several financing sources were identified as resources for the

rehabilitation component of the project. Two important sources are the Federal Rehabilitation Tax Credit and the State of Iowa Rehabilitation Tax Credits. In order to utilize these funding sources to the greatest extent possible, however, the buildings or district must be listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The RFP developed by the Office of Economic Development solicits proposals for two activities. The consultant must first survey the Eastern Gateway to identify the boundaries of a historic district and determine whether the defined district meets the eligibility criteria for a National Register Historic District. If it is determined that the identified district meets the criteria, the consultant will complete the required nomination activities.

The Council will be asked to approve an agreement with the selected consultant at a later date.
