

Meeting Agendas/Info

**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:**

ITEM _____

01-400

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

AGENDA:

SYNOPSIS -

AUGUST 6, 2001

On the August 6, 2001 Council agenda is a roll call to authorize the Mayor to execute several federal documents, including an application, a budget, and a work plan, to access a \$200,000 federal grant for federal staff support related to its recent designation as an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Brownfields Showcase Community. Ellen Walkowiak with the City's Office of Economic Development is coordinating the City activities relative to this project.

SUBJECT:

ACCESS FEDERAL
FUNDS FOR
FEDERAL STAFF
SUPPORT RELATED
TO BROWNFIELDS
SHOWCASE
COMMUNITY
DESIGNATION

FISCAL IMPACT -

As a Brownfields Showcase Community, the EPA is awarding the City \$200,000 for environmental assessment work and \$200,000 for staff support in the form of a federal employee assigned to the City to assist with brownfields project coordination and implementation activities. No matching funds are required.

TYPE:

RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE

RECOMMENDATION -

Approval.

SUBMITTED BY:

ERIC A. ANDERSON
CITY MANAGER

BACKGROUND -

On October 11, 2000, the EPA designated the City of Des Moines one of only 28 communities nationwide as a Brownfields Showcase Community. Des Moines now serves as a national model in advancing the cause of brownfields redevelopment.

The City's Showcase Initiative proposes to focus on revitalization of the Riverpoint West area, continued redevelopment of the Des Moines Agribusiness Park, and reinvestment on infill sites in the Enterprise Community and throughout the City. Existing relationships will be reaffirmed and expanded, and new partnerships

initiated that will encompass a broad cross section of levels of government, businesses, organizations, and individuals to enhance the quality of life in Des Moines.

An employee from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region VII, is anticipated to start working directly with the City's Showcase Initiative beginning September 1, 2001. The assignment is expected to extend from 18-months to two years, depending on available funding. The City has developed a work plan that will guide this employee to enable the City to expand its capacity to meet its brownfield redevelopment challenges.
