

**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:**

ITEM _____

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

02-056

SYNOPSIS -

AGENDA:

JANUARY 28, 2002

Some downtown businesses have requested the ability to receive a notification message from our Outdoor Warning Siren System via their "Tone Alert Radios." The Fire Department is requesting authorization from the City Council to make this signal available and to provide a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City and those participating businesses.

SUBJECT:

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR NOTIFICATION MESSAGE FROM CITY'S OUTDOOR WARNING SIREN SYSTEM

FISCAL IMPACT -

This MOU provides "holds harmless" language to insure the City is protected from any future litigation. There is a one-time expense to the City of \$1,975 to upgrade the controlling equipment of the siren system.

TYPE:

RECOMMENDATION -

RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE

The Fire Department requests City Council approval and authorization for the Fire Chief to sign an MOU between the City and those participating businesses.

SUBMITTED BY:

BACKGROUND -

RON WAKEHAM
FIRE CHIEF

In the Spring of 2001, the City completed the installation of a new radio-controlled "Outdoor Warning Siren System." Some downtown businesses are still concerned as to the ability of their employees to receive storm-warning notification while at their desk at work. With an upgrade of the controlling equipment for our sirens, a signal and message could be transmitted to their privately purchased Tone Alert Radios. Early notification received by the business control centers could expedite evacuation, save lives, and provide signaling to the buildings' fire and life safety systems.

The first radio purchased will be for the Capitol Square Building (400

Locust Street, Capitol Square Associates, Building Manager Marsha Grant).
