

**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:**

ITEM _____

02-157

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

AGENDA:

SYNOPSIS -

MARCH 18, 2002

Subject to Council approval, a proposal has been developed to consolidate and streamline review of development projects and local landmarks. The major provisions of the proposal are:

SUBJECT:

REORGANIZATION OF THE URBAN DEVELOPMENT BOARD, THE ARCHITECTURAL ADVISORY BOARD, AND THE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

- Merging the duties and membership of the Architectural Advisory Committee into the Urban Development Board and abolish the Architectural Advisory Committee as a separate independent entity.
- Expanding the Urban Development Board to 11 members with four community representatives, four architects and design professionals, one owner of property crossed by a Skywalk Corridor, one tenant of property crossed by a Skywalk Corridor, and one member of the Skywalk Association.
- Removing local landmarks which are located within designated urban renewal tax increment financing districts from the jurisdiction of the Historic District Commission.

TYPE:

**RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE**

- Establishing a new 7 member Landmarks Advisory Committee consisting of at large members of the Historic District Commission and the at large members and the architects and design professionals on the Urban Development Board. The Landmarks Advisory Committee would review and make recommendations to the City Council on the designation of local landmarks which are located within designated urban renewal tax districts, and the approval of alteration and demolition of such landmarks.

SUBMITTED BY:

ERIC A. ANDERSON
CITY MANAGER

The proposed amendments would leave the Skywalk Committee as a committee of the Urban Development Board. Only those members of the Urban Development Board who also serve on the Skywalk Committee would be officers of the City and subject to the limitations on contracting with the City. The members of the Urban Development Board who serve on the Landmark Advisory Committee would exercise advisory powers.

The members of the Historic District Commission are offices of the

City and will remain so. The current duties of the Historic District Commission within designated City historic districts, and for landmarks located outside urban renewal districts, would remain unchanged.

FISCAL IMPACT -

N/A

RECOMMENDATION -

To receive and file this communication from the City Manager to reorganize the Urban Development Board, the Architectural Advisory Board, and the Historic District Commission, and to direct the City Manager and the Legal Department to prepare the necessary legislation to implement proposal for future consideration by the City Council.

BACKGROUND -

On February 4, 2002, by Roll Call No. 02-376, the City Council continued the public hearing on the nomination of the Masonic Temple and the Library Building as local landmarks until the City Council meeting on March 18th. Council directed the City Manager and the Legal Department to review and recommend a method to make preservation a "one-stop shop" to streamline the process and clarify definitions to allow historic preservation to be incorporated into the restoration of these types of buildings.
