



**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:**

ITEM _____

02-244

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

AGENDA:

MAY 6, 2002

SYNOPSIS -

SUBJECT:

DOUGLAS HOERR
ARCHITECTURE
CONTRACT

The resolution authorizes the City Manager to negotiate a contract for professional services with the firm of Douglas Hoerr Landscape Architecture for Phase II landscaping of City Hall and the adjacent parking lot, and for the provision of consulting services (review and comment) for other landscape projects, said contract subject to City Council approval after negotiation thereof and execution by Douglas Hoerr Landscape Architecture. The resolution directs staff to develop the contract according to the guidelines presented and return to City Council for approval.

TYPE:

RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE

FISCAL IMPACT -

\$100,000 in Capital Improvement Program (CIP) funding.

SUBMITTED BY:

DONALD M. TRIPP
PARK AND
RECREATION
DIRECTOR

RECOMMENDATION -

Approval.

BACKGROUND -

In February 2001, Janis Ruan brought noted Chicago landscape architect Douglas Hoerr to Des Moines for lectures on urban landscape design, and the positive impact that increasing the green component of the streetscape can have on a city. Mayor Daniels attended these sessions and was so impressed with the leadership role that Mayor Daily had played in supporting the "greening of Chicago" that he formed the Mayor's Streetscape Taskforce.

On April 8, 2002, by Roll Call No. 02-862, the City entered into a three-party agreement with Des Moines Water Works and the Ruan Center Corporation to bring Doug Hoerr to Des Moines to review existing landscape plans and to see if there was some way to link together the numerous projects in various stages beginning at the Des

Moines Airport and ending at the State Capitol. Initially, Mr. Hoerr's contract called for review of Fleur Drive Master Plan, the streetscape around the Ruan properties and the 7th Avenue Parking Garage, and the landscape around City Hall including the parking lot. In addition, Mr. Hoerr prepared recommendations on a prototype set of landscape guidelines.

Mr. Hoerr fulfilled the terms of this initial contract in January, 2002. The approvals requested in this document are necessary in order to move forward on one of the projects that was specifically named in Mr. Hoerr's initial contract, namely the landscaping of City Hall, and to continue the consulting relationship in order to insure that there is a consistency in design throughout the Gateway and Fleur Drive corridor.

A subcommittee of the Taskforce consisting of Bill Dikis, Janis Ruan, Jim Grant, and Don Tripp was created in February 2002 in order to work on the Landscape Guidelines. Staff presented a draft version of the Des Moines Landscape Guidelines to the Subcommittee on April 11.

On April 8, 2002, Council approved a contract for preparation of the schematic design for the Western Gateway Park. As part of this action, Council was advised that staff would be presenting Council with a consulting contract with Doug Hoerr to provide review and comment on the proposed Gateway Park schematic plan. The proposed consulting contract with Doug Hoerr will include this work.

Of the \$100,000 requested, \$50,000 covers Phase II of City Hall landscaping. Specifically, these funds will be used for additional design development, the production of construction documents and bid administration. Of the remaining \$50,000, \$40,000 covers the consulting portion of the contract that will enable Doug Hoerr to provide input on a series of current and future projects; thereby, ensuring that a consistency in landscape design occurs throughout the Fleur Drive/Grand Avenue-Locust Street corridor. The remaining \$10,000 covers reimbursable expenses.

Park CIP funds in the amount of \$91,000 are available in Fiscal Year (FY) 2002 from the Ashby Park Wading Pool fund as the approved CIP moved this program, with full funding, to FY2003. An additional \$9,000 will come from the Gateway project budget. Also approved was \$100,000 in FY2003 CIP funds for the installation of City Hall landscaping designs that will be prepared by Mr. Hoerr.

When Mr. Hoerr's work is completed, it will be sent to City Council

for review and approval.

The Park and Recreation Department has identified \$100,000 in the FY2003 CIP budget to fund the installation of the City Hall landscaping project.
