

**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:**

02-329

AGENDA:

JUNE 17, 2002

SUBJECT:

CREATION OF A
NEW URBAN DESIGN
REVIEW BOARD

TYPE:

RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE

SUBMITTED BY:

ERIC A. ANDERSON
CITY MANAGER

ITEM _____

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

SYNOPSIS -

Recommendation to combine the Architectural Advisory Committee and the Urban Development Board into a new nine-member board to be known as the Urban Design Review Board. This new board will submit their recommendations directly to the City Council. The skywalk responsibilities of the Urban Development Board will be separated into a committee whose sole task will be the operating and maintenance issues of the skywalk.

FISCAL IMPACT -

None.

RECOMMENDATION -

Approval.

BACKGROUND -

As charged by the City Council, the City Manager and staff have undertaken preparation of this proposal for combination of the Urban Development Board and the Architectural Advisory Committee. Consideration has also been given to improving the process of review for landmark proposals and administration outside the Historic Districts. The goal of this effort is to streamline the review process without reducing the contribution of either the professionals or other citizens who are, or wish to become, part of the process.

The proposed charge of the Urban Design Review Board includes the following:

- The current charge of the Architectural Advisory Board.
- The current charge of the Urban Development Board with the

exception that financial reviews of projects before the Board would be limited to an assessment of the adequacy of the proposed cost estimates to accomplish the intended project.

- Review of proposed public landscape and streetscape projects.
- Landmark review and administration, in joint session with the Historic District Commission, for all historical landmarks located outside the boundaries of the City's Historical Districts.

The proposed membership of the Urban Design Board includes:

- Four registered architects (one with significant restoration experience);
 - Two licensed landscape architects;
 - One citizen at-large with a demonstrated interest in historical renovation/restoration;
 - One citizen at-large who is a developer or realtor/broker;
 - One citizen at-large.
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