

**CITY COUNCIL  
COMMUNICATION:**

**02-469**

**AGENDA:**

SEPTEMBER 9, 2002

**SUBJECT:**

RECOGNITION OF  
DOWNTOWN DES  
MOINES  
NEIGHBORHOOD  
ASSOCIATION

**TYPE:**

**RESOLUTION**

ORDINANCE  
RECEIVE/FILE

**SUBMITTED BY:**

JIM GRANT  
COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT  
DIRECTOR

**ITEM80**

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

**SYNOPSIS —**

Formal recognition of the Downtown Des Moines Neighborhood Association according to the Neighborhood Recognition Policy.

**FISCAL IMPACT —**

None

**RECOMMENDATION —**

**Approval.**

**BACKGROUND —**

On May 24, 1993 by Roll Call No. 93-2026, the City Council approved the Neighborhood Recognition Policy as recommended by the Neighborhood Advisory Board (NAB). The intent of this policy is to assist citizens of Des Moines sharing common identity, goals, and concerns to form an organization which will be formally recognized by city government boards, committees and councils and will act as an advisory body when dealing with decisions made by the City and its entities. The policy wishes to recognize the fact that the long term stability of a neighborhood depends on the existence of a strong neighborhood-based organization able to demonstrate broad grass roots participation and the ability to provide leadership and command respect in working with the City and other public and private interests.

In order to implement this policy, Neighborhood Planning Staff developed a strategy that consisted of providing information about the policy and requested information from the neighborhood organizations. Organizations that wish to become recognized must submit the following information: 1) official name of organization; 2) detailed neighborhood boundaries; 3) a list of the organization's representatives with their addresses and telephone numbers; 4) the location and time of their membership meetings; and 5) a copy of the organization's bylaws. The Downtown Des Moines Neighborhood Association has completed an application and is now eligible for official recognition. This application was recommended for approval by the Neighborhood Revitalization Board at their meeting of August

21, 2002.

According to the Neighborhood Recognition Policy, "Upon official recognition of a neighborhood organization by the City Council, the Mayor shall formally proclaim the recognized neighborhood as an important entity to be utilized by the Council in seeking direction on actions which affect the identified neighborhood, and the City will also seek additional coverage through other press releases." In addition, "Whenever mailed notices to adjoining property owners is required by law or by City ordinance or policy, the City will reasonably attempt to also provide notice to any affected neighborhood organizations."