

**CITY COUNCIL  
COMMUNICATION:**

**02-521**

**AGENDA:**

OCTOBER 7, 2002

**SUBJECT:**

POLICY FOR  
SALVAGE OF  
EXCESS BRICK IN  
THE CITY RIGHT-OF-  
WAY

**TYPE:**

**RESOLUTION**  
ORDINANCE  
RECEIVE/FILE

**SUBMITTED BY:**

JIM GRANT  
COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT  
DIRECTOR

JEB BREWER  
CITY ENGINEER

WILLIAM STOWE  
PUBLIC WORKS  
DIRECTOR

**ITEM 62**

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

**SYNOPSIS —**

Policy for salvage of excess brick in the City right-of-way.

**FISCAL IMPACT —**

NA

**RECOMMENDATION —**

**Approval of policy.**

**BACKGROUND —**

At various times, the City will cause to be replaced or remove public walks, alleys, or streets that are of brick construction. Neighborhood organizations, and in particular citizens within historic districts, have expressed an interest in salvaging the bricks from these projects. At its April 22, 2002 meeting the City Council asked to have a formal policy on the salvage of brick.

The Departments of Engineering, Public Works, and Community Development have collaborated and are recommending the attached policy. The policy ensures that bricks with no overlay are salvaged and not sent to the landfill. It provides the option of working with the Parks and Recreation Department if a particular project needs bricks; the contractor, if significant cost savings can be shown; or a neighborhood association to salvage the bricks. The City will require the neighborhood to sign agreements to limit the City's and contractor's liability and follow the city's safety rules.

If a street or alley has an asphalt overlay, salvage potential will be determined on a case-by-case basis. If the City has to spend additional funds on the salvage, the cost of the brick may need to reflect those costs. Staff is hesitant to put an actual price in the policy because of the uncertain nature of the City's costs. Currently, the Public Works Department stock piles brick at 2100 Scott and makes those brick available (depending upon availability) to persons wishing to repair their brick public sidewalk for fifty cents a brick.

On Saturday, August 10<sup>th</sup> the Sherman Hill Association hosted a brick

salvage on 15<sup>h</sup> Street south of Walnut as approved by City Council at its July 22, 2002 meeting, Roll Call 02-1848. The Sherman Hill Association charged fifteen cents a brick and made around \$3,000 on the event, which will be used to subsidize two recent house moves. The low cost was charged because everyone had to pick up and load their own bricks and had only one day in which to salvage.

Attachments