



Agenda Item:

30A

## **COUNCIL COMMUNICATION**

### **City Manager's Office**

#### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

Agenda Date: 09/13/04

Communication

No.: 04-437

Agenda Item Type: Resolution

Roll Call

No.:

Submitted by: Larry Hulse, Community Development Director

#### **SUBJECT—**

Resolution Approving the Neighborhood Revitalization Board's Recommendation on the Continuation of Charter Status for the Existing Charter Neighborhoods

#### **SYNOPSIS—**

At their August 18, 2004 meeting, the Neighborhood Revitalization Board voted to recommend to the City Council the continuation of Charter status for the existing Charter Neighborhoods in the Neighborhood Revitalization Program, which are ACCENT, Beavertdale, Capitol East, Capitol Park, Chautauqua Park, McKinley School/Columbus Park, Union Park and Woodland Heights.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT—**

None.

#### **RECOMMENDATION—**

Approval

## **BACKGROUND—**

The Community Development Department recently completed an evaluation of the Charter Neighborhoods in the Neighborhood Revitalization Program. The Neighborhood Revitalization Program requires that all participating neighborhoods be evaluated periodically to assess the conditions in the neighborhoods and to determine if investments made in the neighborhood have been maintained.

The evaluation of the Charter Neighborhoods (ACCENT, Beavercdale, Capitol East, Capitol Park, Chautauqua Park, McKinley School/Columbus Park, Union Park and Woodland Heights) consisted of a comparison of 2001 and 2004 Neighborhood Indicator data, as well as supplementary information from the Neighborhood Finance Corporation. The neighborhoods were also given a Neighborhood Health Survey, which attempted to gauge the health of the neighborhood and the neighborhood association on a more subjective or anecdotal basis. This information is included as an attachment to the Roll Call for this item.

A review of the Neighborhood Indicators reveals that the conditions of Des Moines' Charter neighborhoods have remained stable since 2001, when the Neighborhood Indicators were created. Statistical standards dictate that data that falls within three standard deviations of the mean is considered normal variation. Using this standard, all of the Neighborhood Indicators show that the change that has occurred from 2001 to 2003 is normal and, therefore, not statistically significant.

The Neighborhood Revitalization Board has reviewed the staff recommendation and is in concurrence with it. Additionally, the Neighborhood Revitalization Board invited representatives of all of the Charter Neighborhoods to attend their August 18, 2004 meeting to comment on the staff recommendation and any other issues of concern. This provided the Neighborhood Revitalization Board an excellent opportunity to have a dialogue with the Charter Neighborhood leaders regarding the status of Des Moines' neighborhoods.