



Agenda Item:

Extra Item 2

## **COUNCIL COMMUNICATION**

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

#### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

Agenda Date: 04/25/2005  
05-231

Communication No.:

Agenda Item Type: Resolution

Roll Call No.:

Submitted by: Donald M. Tripp, Park and Recreation Director

#### **SUBJECT—**

City Council support of Iowa Sister States application to the United States Department of State for Southeast Asia and Middle East Youth Sports Initiative to develop a sports management-training program in Malaysia.

#### **SYNOPSIS—**

The United States Department of State has announced a grant program for a two-way exchange of ten delegates between Malaysia and the City of Des Moines for the management and development of youth sports. A local organization, Iowa Sister States, headed by Bob Utter, is submitting an application for a grant to develop a Sports Management training program, and Mr. Utter desires the assistance of the Des Moines Park and Recreation Department.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT—**

No financial commitment from the City of Des Moines is required. All City staff expenses for international travel, housing and per diem will be paid by the grant. The City's in-kind support will include City staff time, token gifts and certificate of participation for the visiting Malaysian delegation. It is expected that the City will receive local intern support for the Park and Recreation Department from Malaysia.

#### **RECOMMENDATION—**

Approval

**BACKGROUND—**

The United States Department of State has announced the availability of a grant to support an exchange program between Malaysia and the City of Des Moines. This grant will allow a Park and Recreation staff member to provide training for recreation facility management and youth recreation programs in Malaysia for approximately two weeks for approximately 25 people. Staff will identify two additional resource personnel to assist from other cities in Iowa with the assistance from the Iowa Association of Parks and Recreation.

In exchange, ten delegates will be selected to come to the United States. Three of those candidates will be from the recreational field. Another three delegates will be youth sport coaches who have received a special training course on coaching grass roots youth sports. Three other delegates will want to observe how we organize and conduct youth sports clinics. A fourth member will likely be the Chair of the delegation who will be from the Ministry of Youth and Sports or the Olympic Council of Malaysia. Once the delegates complete the training in the United States, they will return to Malaysia and be responsible for training others in managing 138 new park and recreation centers in the country.

An official letter of support from the City is required by April 29, 2005 for the grant submission.