



Agenda Item:

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COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

City Manager's Office

GENERAL INFORMATION

Agenda Date: 9/26/05
Agenda Item Type: Receive/File

Communication No.: 05-527
Roll Call No.:

Submitted by: Richard Clark, Acting City Manager

SUBJECT—

Certificate of Achievement for 2004 City of Des Moines Performance Report

SYNOPSIS—

This action would receive and file an award of a Certificate of Achievement in Service Efforts and Accomplishments Reporting from the Association of Government Accountants for the City's 2004 Performance Report.

FISCAL IMPACT—

None.

RECOMMENDATION—

Approval

BACKGROUND—

The City received a letter from the Association of Government Accountants (AGA) on September 12, 2005 notifying the City that the 2004 City of Des Moines Performance Report was being recognized with an award of a Certificate of Achievement in Service Efforts and Accomplishments Reporting. This award recognizes performance reports that meet the standards of the suggested criteria of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB).

Des Moines was one of only nine recipients of this prestigious award. The letter from AGA praised many of the components of the report including the introductory letter from the City Manager, graphical identification of key information, the inclusion of phone numbers and other resources for additional information, and a tear-out postcard to allow citizen feedback. The letter also included a list of suggestions that staff can use to improve the City's next report. A copy of this letter is attached to the Roll Call. Awards will be formally presented at AGA's Performance Management Conference in Portland, Oregon on Monday, November 14, 2005.

On February 28, 2005 by Roll Call 05-466, the City Council received and filed the 2004 City of Des Moines Performance Report. The Report used information from the City's four performance measurement programs to analyze the City's success in implementing the *Today and Tomorrow, 1996 and beyond*, the City's strategic plan. Approximately 12,000 copies of the report were printed and are being distributed to the community.

The production of the report was paid with a grant from the National Center for Civic Innovation (NCCI) through its Government Performance Reporting Demonstration Project. The aim of the project is to encourage local and state governments to apply the criteria specified in the Governmental Accounting Standards Board's (GASB) Special Report, *Performance Reporting: Suggested Criteria for Effective Communication*. Des Moines was selected for the award of this grant along with approximately 30 other governments.

The application to NCCI outlining the City of Des Moines' report proposal was approved by the City Council at its January 26, 2004 City Council Meeting by Roll Call 04-181 and the grant funding was accepted on July 12, 2004 by Roll Call 04-1448. A rough draft of the report was distributed to the City Council on December 6, 2004.

The NCCI grant requires that the City produce a second report by November of 2005 incorporating feedback and addressing questions and concerns generated by the first report.