



Agenda Item:

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COUNCIL COMMUNICATION City Manager's Office

GENERAL INFORMATION

Agenda Date: 09/26/05
Agenda Item Type: Approval

Communication No.: 05-545
Roll Call No.:

Submitted by: Larry Hulse, Community Development Director

SUBJECT—

Approve FY06 initial LIHEAP contract with the Iowa Department of Human Rights, Division of Community Action Agencies.

SYNOPSIS—

Approval of the initial Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) contract by and between the Iowa Department of Human Rights, Division of Community Action Agencies and the City of Des Moines for energy related assistance for low-income persons from 10/01/05 to 09/30/06. Additional funds will be added after Congress approves FY06 appropriations.

FISCAL IMPACT—

LIHEAP funding provides energy related assistance for low-income residents of Des Moines

RECOMMENDATION—

Approval.

BACKGROUND—

The LIHEAP contract is administered by the Community Development Department, Community Services Division. In FY 2005 the program received \$2,553,655 in funding and assisted 6525 households.

The Community Services Division operates as the Community Action Agency for the City of Des Moines. The beginnings of Community Action can be found in the signing of the federal Equal

Opportunity Act in 1964. The City became a public Community Action Agency (CAA) in 1977. It is charged with providing services to the City's low-income families and trying to address and eliminate causes of poverty. There are now 1,000 Community Action Agencies across the United States. The City of Des Moines is one of eighteen Community Action Agencies in Iowa.