



Agenda Item:

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## **COUNCIL COMMUNICATION**

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

#### **GENERAL INFORMATION—**

Agenda Date: 12/19/05  
Agenda Item Type: Resolution

Communication No.: 05-734  
Roll Call No:

Submitted by: Jeb E. Brewer, City Engineer

#### **SUBJECT—**

Approving and adopting Addendum No. 5 to the Urban Design Standards for Public Improvements, 2001 Edition, and Addendum No. 7 to the Urban Standard Specifications for Public Improvements, 1998 Edition.

#### **SYNOPSIS—**

The adoption of these revisions is the result of the work of the Iowa Statewide Urban Design and Specifications Corporation. Addendum No. 5 to the Urban Design Standards for Public Improvements includes revisions to the chapters on General Provisions, Storm Water Management and Drainage, Sanitary Sewers, Roadway Design, Recreation Trails and Sidewalks, Trenchless Construction, and Signalization. Addendum No. 7 to the Urban Standard Specifications for Public Improvements includes revisions to the divisions on General Provisions and Covenants; Earthwork; Trench, Backfill and Trenchless Construction; Sewers and Drains; Water Mains and Appurtenances; Structures for Sanitary and Storm Sewers; Streets and Related Work; and Site Work and Landscaping.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT—**

Reduced construction costs by adopting updated Statewide Standards that save contractors' overhead costs.

#### **RECOMMENDATION—**

Approval.

#### **BACKGROUND—**

On June 4, 2001, by Roll Call 01-1759, the City Council adopted the Urban Design Standards for Public Improvements, 2001 Edition, as the City's design standards. On May 5, 2003, by Roll Call 03-968, the City Council approved Addenda No. 1 and 2 to the Urban Design Standards for Public Improvements.

On January 12, 2004, by Roll Call 04-021, the City Council approved Addendum No. 3 to the Urban Design Standards for Public Improvements. On February 7, 2005, by Roll Call 05-274, the City Council approved Addendum No. 4 to the Urban Design Standards for Public Improvements.

On March 16, 1998 by Roll Call 98-719, the City Council adopted the Urban Standard Specifications for Public Improvements, 1998 Edition, as the standard specifications to be used for constructing public improvements within the City of Des Moines. On June 21, 1999 by Roll Call 99-2000, the City Council approved Addendum No. 1 to the Urban Standard Specifications for Public Improvements. On June 4,

2001, by Roll Call 01-1759, the City Council approved Addendum No. 2 to the Urban Standard Specifications for Public Improvements, on May 5, 2003, by Roll Call 03-968, the City Council approved Addenda No. 3 and 4 to the Urban Standard Specifications for Public Improvements. On January 12, 2004, by Roll Call 04-021, the City Council approved Addendum No. 5 to the Urban Standard Specifications for Public Improvements. On February 7, 2005, by Roll Call 05-274, the City Council approved Addendum No. 6 to the Urban Standard Specifications for Public Improvements.

The Urban Design Standards and Urban Standard Specifications for Public Improvements are statewide standards for design and construction of urban public improvements in Iowa, which are the product of a joint effort by many local jurisdictions to ensure that public improvements will function adequately, reduce maintenance problems, are durable and safe, and most of all, cost effective to the public within each jurisdiction using these design standards and standard specifications.

A non-profit corporation, Iowa Statewide Urban Design and Specifications (SUDAS) Corporation, has been formed, which is comprised of representatives of the Iowa DOT and Iowa cities and counties, and other stakeholders including MPO's, TMA's, and consultants, to provide statewide ownership and management of these statewide standards for urban public works improvements in Iowa. Currently, all 24 cities in Iowa with populations over 15,000 have obtained the SUDAS design and standard specification manuals, representing approximately 53% of the urban population of the state. Over 80% of the 48 Iowa cities, with populations greater than 7,500, also have SUDAS design and standard specification manuals. It is estimated that the cities with these SUDAS design and standard specification manuals comprise over 70% of the total urban population of Iowa.

The SUDAS Corporation has an extensive statewide district committee structure and various technical committees, all comprised of professional engineers representing Iowa stakeholders. Throughout the year, these committees meet to review the statewide standards for design and construction of urban public improvements and recommend changes that need to be made due to regulatory changes, changes of materials, improved construction techniques, and changing technology in the construction industry. After review and approval by the various committees and the SUDAS Board of Directors, the revisions are incorporated into the Urban Design Standards and Urban Standard Specifications for Public Improvements annually by addendum. Representatives from the Engineering and Public Works Departments participate in the various committees, and three representatives of the Engineering Department sit in the 37-member SUDAS Board of Directors.

Staff recommends adoption of Addendum No. 5 to the Urban Design Standards for Public Improvements, 2001 Edition (now also referred to as the SUDAS 2006 Edition), and also recommends adoption of Addendum No. 7 to the Urban Standard Specifications for Public Improvements, 1998 Edition (now also referred to as the SUDAS 2006 Edition). Addendum No. 5 to the Urban Design Standards for Public Improvements includes revisions to the chapters on General Provisions, Storm Water Management and Drainage, Sanitary Sewers, Roadway Design, Recreation Trails and Sidewalks, Trenchless Construction, and Signalization. Addendum No. 7 to the Urban Standard Specifications for Public Improvements includes revisions to the divisions on General Provisions and Covenants; Earthwork; Trench, Backfill

and Trenchless Construction; Sewers and Drains; Water Mains and Appurtenances; Structures for Sanitary and Storm Sewers; Streets and Related Work; and Site Work and Landscaping.