



Agenda Item:

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COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

City Manager's Office

GENERAL INFORMATION

Agenda Date: 01/09/06
Agenda Item Type: Resolution

Communication No.: 06-006
Roll Call No.:

Submitted by: Larry Hulse, Director Community Development

SUBJECT—

Approve CSBG Contract No. 06-07-CJ.

SYNOPSIS—

The resolution approves the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) contract by and between the Iowa Department of Human Rights, Division of Community Action Agencies and the City of Des Moines for community services to low-income persons from October 1, 2005 to September 30, 2006.

FISCAL IMPACT—

The CSBG contract allocates \$532,431 to the City of Des Moines. Funds will be placed in the CSBG Fund account number SP027 CDD049900 CSBG2006001.

RECOMMENDATION—

Approval

BACKGROUND—

CSBG funding was passed by both the House and the Senate on December 22, 2005 and signed by the President on December 30. Funding is at the FY 05 level minus the 1% across the board domestic spending cut. This contract will be adjusted accordingly.

CSBG provides funding for the City's Community Action Agency with services delivered through the Community Development Department's Community Services Division. Services are delivered through the downtown office in the Armory Building and the Forest Avenue, Logan, and Pioneer-Columbus Community Services site offices. The Low-income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), and United Way also provide funding to the City's Community Action efforts.

The Community Services Division operates as the Community Action Agency for the City of Des Moines. It is charged with providing services to the City's low-income families and trying to address and eliminate causes of poverty. The City became a public Community Action Agency (CAA) in 1977.

The beginnings of Community Action can be found in the signing of the federal Equal Opportunity Act in 1964. There are now 1,000 Community Action Agencies in the U.S. The City of Des Moines is one of eighteen Community Action Agencies serving Iowa.