

Council Communication

Office of the City Manager

Date September 25, 2006

Agenda Item No. 55
Roll Call No. 06Communication No. 06-614

Submitted by: Submitted by: Richard A.

Clark, City Manager

AGENDA HEADING:

Preliminary commitment of financial support for physical improvements to the Civic Center of Greater Des Moines.

SYNOPSIS:

Preliminary commitment of \$500,000 grant for Civic Center improvements with the understanding that there will be a like contribution from Polk County and from suburban communities, and subject to final approval of terms and conditions by the City Council.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: Estimated \$500,000 total.

<u>Funding Source</u>: Tax Increment Financing beginning in FY2008-09, paid over five to ten years.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The Civic Center of Greater Des Moines is seeking funding throughout the greater Des Moines area to finance improvements to the Civic Center, located in downtown Des Moines. The building is owned by the City, subject to a lease that expires October 25, 2075. The building is more than 25 years old and is in need of major updating and refurbishing.

The Civic Center board has set a goal of \$7,000,000, the estimated cost of improvements, and hopes to receive contributions from Polk County, metro area cities, foundations, and private donors. Civic Center fundraisers have targeted an amount in excess of \$1,500,000 to be collected from local governments, based on an approximately one-third share from Polk County, the City of Des Moines, and Des Moines' suburbs. Local government participation is key, since it will be used as a match for foundation grants being sought.

The cost of the improvements includes the following items:

- Replace current marquees with LED signage
- Renovate West Entrance, Stoner Theater Entrance, and Skyway Entrance
- Refurbish seats in Main Hall
- Replace carpet and furniture throughout facility
- Replace stage rigging and fly system
- Sound treatment in Main Hall to optimize acoustics at amplified performances
- Update dressing rooms on the ground level and basement

- Bring seating up to code with Americans with Disabilities Act requirements
- Replace concrete surrounding facility and provide enhanced landscaping
- Improve lighting design in East and West lobbies to promote safe lighting changes

Costs that are included in the \$7,000,000 goal, that are not physical improvements are:

- Add \$1 million to the Education Endowment for the creation and development of new education programs.
- New educational efforts to include programs at the Civic Center as well as outreach programs into the community.

Funds sought in this request will not be sufficient to construct improvements to Nollen Plaza.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: January 20, 1992

Roll Call Number: 92-204

<u>Action</u>: Approval of lease amendment providing \$1.6 million of City funds for improvements and restoration of Civic Center and Nollen Plaza.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Final approval of \$500,000 grant subject terms and conditions established by City.