



Council Communication

Office of the City Manager

Date

November 6, 2006

Agenda Item No. 24

Roll Call No. 06-

Communication No. 06-700

Submitted by: Larry Hulse, Community
Development Director

AGENDA HEADING:

Authorizing a \$250,000 grant request to the Polk County Housing Trust Fund for the City of Des Moines Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Program for a Lead-Based Paint Control Program with Polk County Health Department.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend authorization to submit a \$250,000 Grant Request to the Polk County Housing Trust Fund for a program jointly administered by the City and the Polk County Health Department that will target owner-occupied houses in Des Moines for Lead-Based Paint Interim Control measures. These homes are identified as the primary residence of a child under the age of six with elevated blood lead (EBL).

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: The grant application is for \$250,000. This will be matched by \$250,000 of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds (anticipated to be approved November 20, 2006). These grant funds will enable the City's Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program to proceed with Lead-Based Paint Control measures eligible low-income homeowners that are targeted for assistance.

Funding Source: Fiscal Year 2006-07 Operating Budget, NCS-Owner Occupied Program, SP020 CDD049900 CDBG200514, Page 354.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The City's Community Development Department will submit an application to the Polk County Housing Trust Fund (PCHTF) requesting \$250,000 for the City of Des Moines and Polk County Health Department Lead-Based Paint Control Program. Funds received from the PCHTF will be leveraged with CDBG funds for the Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program administered by the Neighborhood Conservation Services Division.

The City has a component within the current Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program for undertaking major rehabilitation projects (greater than \$25,000). The Lead-Based Paint Control program is intended to complete the necessary rehabilitation work for eligible low-income homeowners who have homes identified as the primary residence of a child under the age of six with elevated blood lead (EBL). The cost is approximately \$25,000 per unit.

Federal regulations enacted in 2000 require Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funded programs to treat and/or abate lead hazards. About 27% of the homes in Des Moines were built before 1950, compared to 22% nationwide. Studies have shown that virtually all pre-1950 homes contain lead hazards.

Within Des Moines, the Enterprise Community (bordered by MLK Jr. Parkway on the west, Des Moines River on the east, Hickman Road on the north and I-235 on the south) has shown to have the highest concentration (19%) of tested children, six years of age and under, with elevated blood lead greater than 10 micrograms per deciliter. These are levels where children's intelligence, hearing and growth are affected and can cause developmental deficits and learning disorders.

The Polk County Health Department is required to test and maintain a list of children with elevated blood lead (EBL) by address. The City had partnered with the County to target addresses with children at the highest risk for the Program for Lead-Based Paint Controls. Further, the City, County, and surrounding communities have created a Lead-Based Paint Coalition that will support an application to HUD for a Lead Based Paint Control Grant application in 2007. If awarded, the three-year, \$2 million grant will be administered by Polk County Health Department in conjunction with the applicable local rehabilitation programs.

This resolution gives authorization for the submission of the grant application, which is required by the Polk County Housing Trust Fund. If the grant is received, the City Manager or his designee is authorized to execute the terms of the agreement through the City's Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: November 21, 2005

Roll Call Number: 05-2791

Action: Submission of a \$125,000 grant request to Polk County Housing Trust Fund for the City's Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Loan program for a pilot program for Interim Lead-Based Paint Control. ([Council Communication No. 05-654](#)) Moved by Hensley to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE