



Council Communication

Office of the City Manager

Date

February 12, 2007

Agenda Item No. 52A & B
Roll Call No. 07-
Communication No. 07-074
Submitted By: Rudy Simms, Human
Rights Director

AGENDA HEADING:

Approval of Cooperative Agreement and Memorandum of Understanding contracts between the Des Moines Human Rights Commission and the Iowa Civil Rights Commission.

SYNOPSIS:

The purpose of these agreements is to assist the Iowa Civil Rights Commission consistent with the intent of Iowa Code section 216.19 in resolving the high volume of complaints alleging discrimination and to reduce backlogs, without compromising quality or the integrity of the system. The criteria and parameters set by the agreements are designed to ensure an efficient, effective, and coordinated State-Local civil rights enforcement program and partnership. Partial reimbursement for Des Moines Human Rights Commission work will be paid by the State of Iowa through the Iowa Civil Rights Commission.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The revenue from the agreements is anticipated to be less than \$1,000. These funds will be held under the following revenue code: FY2006-2007 Operating Budget, 490160 GE001HRI010000, page 190.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Iowa Code section 216.19 states that a commission of local government and the Iowa Civil Rights Commission shall cooperate in the sharing of data and research, and coordinating investigations and conciliations in order to expedite claims of unlawful discrimination and eliminate needless duplication. This section also says the Iowa Civil Rights Commission may enter into cooperative agreements with any local commission to effectuate the purposes of the Iowa Civil Rights Act. Such agreements may include technical and clerical assistance and reimbursement of expenses incurred by the local commission in the performance of the commission's duties if funds are appropriated by the General Assembly for this purpose.

The agreements herein in substance and reimbursement amounts are identical to those offered to other local human rights commissions around the state.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S):

Date: February 8, 2007

Roll Call: NA

Action: The Human Rights Commission approved the agreement and MOU.

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Annual renewal of contracts.