



Council Communication

Office of the City Manager

Date

December 22, 2008

Agenda Item No. 44B

Roll Call No. 08-

Communication No. 08-736

Submitted by: Submitted by: Richard A.
Clark, City Manager

AGENDA HEADING:

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

SYNOPSIS:

Commitment of \$500,000 for physical improvements to the Civic Center of Greater Des Moines, to be paid in annual installments over five years, and authorizing the City Manager and Finance Director to make payment as funds are available.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$500,000

Funding Source: Tax Increment Financing beginning in FY2008-09, paid over five 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, is more than 25 years old, and is in need of major updating and refurbishing.

The Civic Center board has set a fundraising goal of \$7,000,000. Funds will be used to pay for the estimated cost of improvements (\$6,000,000) and to establish an Education Endowment (\$1,000,000). Contributions to date include \$500,000 from Polk County, \$165,000 from West Des Moines, and \$44,650 from Clive, in addition to contributions from foundations and private donors. These contributions will be used as match for a Vision Iowa grant in the amount of \$1,250,000. As directed by Council in the September 25, 2006 preliminary approval, City funds may be used only for physical improvements.

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
- Improve lighting design in East and West lobbies to promote safe lighting changes

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

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: November 10, 2008

Roll Call Number: 08-1962

Action: Set date of hearing on proposed 9th Amendment to the Metro Center Urban Renewal Plan to identify improvements to the Civic Center of Greater Des Moines as eligible for economic development grant assistance and designate a parcel of property generally located at 201 E. Locust for potential acquisition funded with tax increment revenues, (12-22-08). (Council Communication No. 08-675) Moved by Vlassis to adopt. Motion Carried 6-1.

Date: July 23, 2007

Roll Call Number: 07-1464

Action: Approving physical improvements to the Civic Center of Greater Des Moines and an exception to the electronic sign moratorium. (Council Communication No. 07-462) Moved by Vlassis to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: September 25, 2006

Roll Call Number: 06-1926

Action: Preliminary commitment of financial support for physical improvements to the Civic Center of Greater Des Moines. (Council Communication No. 06-614) Moved by Vlassis to adopt. City funds will be used for physical improvements only. Motion Carried 6-0.

Date: January 20, 1992

Roll Call Number: 92-204

Action: 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: NONE

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