



# Council Communication

Office of the City Manager

Date

March 23, 2009

Agenda Item No. 26

Roll Call No. 09-

Communication No. 09-174

Submitted by: Larry Hulse, Community Development Director, and Jeb E. Brewer, P.E. City Engineer

## AGENDA HEADING:

Authorization to submit Community Disaster Grant Applications to the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division.

## SYNOPSIS:

Recommend authorization to submit three Community Disaster Grant Applications to the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division for a property acquisition buyout program, a small business assistance program and for the Cownie Soccer Fields Repair.

## FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$1,990,000

Funding Source: \$1,950,000 Community Disaster Grant funds, \$40,000 2009-2010 CIP, Page Park Improvements-25, Parks Improvements, Soccer Complex, PKS159, G.O. Bonds.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

In the summer of 2008, there was extensive damage across Iowa from flooding and other severe weather. In response to this flooding the State of Iowa created the Community Disaster Grant Program in February 2009. This law appropriates \$22,000,000 to be awarded to cities and counties within the geographical area covered by Presidential Disaster Declaration DR-1763-IA that incurred disaster related damages between May 25, 2008 and August 13, 2008. Funds from this grant program are awarded to eligible cities and counties based on a pro rata share of damage costs associated with obligated funds for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Individual Assistance Program and Small Business Administration Disaster Loan Program as of February 2, 2009. The City of Des Moines' pro rata share for this grant is approximately \$326,000. The City is submitting total requests of \$1,950,000. While this exceeds the pro rata share for Des Moines, the program does allow for funds to be reallocated in the event other cities and counties choose not to apply for their funds.

Three project applications have been prepared for submission. The projects proposed were identified as being eligible in the grant selection criteria. The projects are listed in priority order:

1. \$500,000 for additional acquisition of flood-prone structures within the Birdland and /or Four Mile Creek areas. There have been previous buyout programs including the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). However, even after these program funds are spent, there

are still some flood-prone structures in these areas. This program would provide funds for acquisition of 3-5 additional flood-prone properties on a voluntary basis.

2. \$400,000 for a small business assistance program. This program will allow for grants to for-profit and not-for-profit entities impacted by the flood that did not receive other disaster assistance due to Federal program restrictions. The entities must be currently in operation or must commit to reopen within 12 months of grant award date.
3. \$1,050,000 for the third phase of the rebuilding of the Cownie Soccer Complex. The floods of 2008 extensively damaged the Cownie Soccer Complex. To date the City has awarded two contracts to repair fields at the complex. This third phase would complete the repairs to the complex.

### **PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):**

Date: November 10, 2008

Roll Call Number: 08-2009

Action: Authorization to submit a Hazard Mitigation Grant Project Application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency in order to fund a Voluntary Acquisition Program for eligible flood damaged properties in the Four Mile Area. (Council Communication No. 08-676) Moved by Mahaffey to adopt. Motion Carried 6-1.

Date: July 28, 2008

Roll Call Number: 08-1376

Action: Consideration of Birdland Voluntary Acquisition Program for flood damaged properties. Sponsor: Mahaffey. (Council Communication No. 08-462) Moved by Vlassis to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

### **BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE**

### **ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:**

Acceptance of Grant and normal Council actions for authorizing property acquisition and bidding and construction of approved projects.

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