

 <p style="text-align: center;">Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p>	Date:	January 9, 2012
	Agenda Item No.	28A
	Roll Call No.	<u>12-0047</u>
	Communication No.	<u>12-022</u>
	Submitted by:	Donald M. Tripp, Director of Park and Recreation

AGENDA HEADING:

Pledging support of the Greater Des Moines Botanical Center (GDMBC) to apply for a Vision Iowa Community Attraction and Tourism grant to be used for expansion of the Des Moines Botanical Center.

SYNOPSIS:

This action pledges support for the GDMBC’s Vision Iowa Community Attraction and Tourism grant application for funding of a portion of the expenses relating to expansion of the Des Moines Botanical Center. Development of improvements are required to comply with the approved master plan for the Des Moines Botanical Center.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: The GDMBC intends to apply for funding in the amount of \$1.4 million from Vision Iowa.

Vision Iowa requires a contribution from the local municipality and county before they will consider any grant request. The GDMBC is not requesting any new additional financing from the City. The GDMBC has previously committed to completing \$10 million in fundraising in the first five years (lease will commence on January 1, 2013), including \$7.5 million for improvements to the Center and grounds, \$2 million for an endowment for operational expenses and \$500,000 for construction-related costs, such as interest on construction loans and fundraising, and operating costs during and immediately after construction

Funding Source: No additional City funds are being committed beyond what has previously been approved as part of the long-term lease agreement and economic development grant agreement.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

On April, 25, 2011, by Roll Call No. 11-0680, the City Council approved a long-term lease agreement with the GDMBC for operations, management and maintenance of the Des Moines Botanical Center. On May 9, 2011, by Roll Call No. 11-0825, the City Council approved an urban renewal economic development agreement with GDMBC for an economic development grant.

A Vision Iowa CAT grant is critical to starting the first phase of the GDMBC renovations that will help underwrite the planned improvements. As part of the long-term lease agreement, the GDMBC will still need to present their master plan to the Mayor and City Council for approval prior to the lease commencing on January 1, 2013. Until the new lease agreement commences, the current lease

agreement with Des Moines Water Works will continue, and expire on December 31, 2012 as originally planned.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: May 9, 2011

Roll Call Number: 11-0822

Action: [On](#) vacation as parkland and right-of-way and Long-term Lease, Operation, Management and Maintenance Agreement of Des Moines Botanical Center and adjacent grounds to Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden. Moved by Mahaffey to adopt. Motion Carried 6-1. Nays: Moore

Date: May 9, 2011

Roll Call Number: 11-0825

Action: [Approving](#) Urban Renewal Development Agreement. ([Council Communication No. 11-266](#)) Moved by Mahaffey to adopt. Motion Carried 6-1. Nays: Moore

Date: April 25, 2011

Roll Call Number: 11-0680

Action: [On](#) vacation and Long-term Lease, Operation, Management and Maintenance Agreement of Des Moines Botanical Center and adjacent grounds including a portion of Robert D. Ray Drive to Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden, (5-9-11). ([Council Communication No. 11-259](#)) Moved by Hensley to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: May 10, 2010

Roll Call Number: 10-685

Action: [Guiding](#) principles for negotiation of a long term lease and management agreement for the Botanical Center and grounds. ([Council Communication No. 10-259](#)) Moved by Meyer to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: July 14, 2008

Roll Call Number: 08-1270

Action: [Authorizing](#) City Manager to negotiate and execute Agreement for development of a master plan for the Des Moines Botanical Center and grounds, not to exceed \$30,000. ([Council Communication No. 08-424](#)) Moved by Vlassis to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S):

Board: Plan and Zoning Commission

Date: April 7, 2011

Resolution Number: 11-2011-1.04

Action: Commission voted 8-1-3 to recommend APPROVAL of a request from Friends of the Des Moines Botanical Center, represented by Fred Weitz, for the permanent closure of the park road adjacent to the Des Moines Botanical Center to through-access from a point immediately north of I-235 to East 6th Avenue, subject to development in accordance with proposed master plan and encouraging those in negotiation (the City and the Friends of the Des Moines Botanical Center) to extend every reasonable effort to maintain access to the north trailhead for pedestrian and vehicular traffic.

Board: Park and Recreation Board

Date: December 28, 2010

Resolution Number: 10-105

Action: Approval of Botanical Center lease agreement.

Board: Park and Recreation Board

Date: November 23, 2010

Resolution Number: 10-098

Action: Receive and file Botanical Center lease agreement.

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Approve final master plan between the City of Des Moines and the GDMBC.

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