

 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Council Communication</b> Office of the City Manager</p>	<b>Date:</b>	August 27, 2012
	<b>Agenda Item No.</b>	15
	<b>Roll Call No.</b>	<u>12-1341</u>
	<b>Communication No.</b>	<u>12-464</u>
	<b>Submitted by:</b>	<b>Phillip Delafield, Community Development Director</b>

**AGENDA HEADING:**

Approve recommendation from the Neighborhood Revitalization Board to amend the Valley High Manor neighborhood boundaries, extending the western boundary to East 30th Street, and staff recommendation to amend the northern Laurel Hill neighborhood boundary to Dean Avenue.

**SYNOPSIS:**

Harlan Donaldson, President of the Valley High Manor Neighborhood Association presented a petition to City staff which proposes expanding the Valley High Manor Neighborhood. Currently the neighborhood boundaries are East University on the north, Dean Avenue on the south, Williams Street on the west, and the City Boundary on the east. The neighborhood is requesting to expand their western boundary to East 30th Street. The proposed new boundaries would include 125 residential properties, as well as, the Iowa State Fairgrounds and several businesses along East University. In order to prevent an overlap with the Laurel Hill neighborhood, staff recommends amending the northern boundary of Laurel Hill to Dean Avenue.

**FISCAL IMPACT: NONE**

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

The proposed boundary amendment would incorporate an area not currently served by any neighborhood association into the Valley High Manor neighborhood. The Valley High Manor Neighborhood Association began exploring the boundary change in March by sending a letter to all property owners in the proposed area with an invitation to an April meeting. The Valley High Manor Neighborhood Association continued to solicit support by sending a copy of their newsletter to the same properties in May, and finally by going door to door with a petition. The petition submitted by the Valley High Manor Neighborhood Association has 46 signatures, with the vast majority in favor of the boundary change. Two signers listed that they were not in favor and three responded that they were not sure or did not care. Signers included residents, businesses and a representative of the Iowa State Fair. A copy of the petition and map showing the signatures is attached.

The current southern boundary for Valley High Manor is Dean Avenue. The expansion of the western boundary over to East 30th Street would cause an overlap between the Valley High Manor and Laurel Hill neighborhoods (see attached map). Staff does not recommend creating areas where neighborhood boundaries overlap as it results in confusion for City departments, developers, and other service providers. The majority of the property on the north side of Dean Avenue belongs to the Iowa State Fairgrounds. There are three (3) residential properties on the north side of Dean which are currently

considered to be in the Laurel Hill Neighborhood. Upon discussing the best course of action with Cynde Rayman, current president of the Laurel Hill Neighborhood Association, and Harlan Donaldson, current president of the Valley High Manor Neighborhood Association, both parties agreed that Dean Avenue should form the boundary between the neighborhoods. Thus, in addition to amending the western Valley High Manor neighborhood boundary to East 30th Street, staff recommends amending the northern Laurel Hill neighborhood boundary to Dean Avenue. If approved, both neighborhoods shall amend their bylaws to reflect the changes.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE**

**BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S):**

Board: Neighborhood Revitalization Board

Date: August 1, 2012

Resolution Number: N/A

Action: Forward a recommendation to Council to approve the boundary amendment proposed by the Valley High Manor Neighborhood Association, expanding the western boundary to E. 30th Street.

**ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE**

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