

 <p style="text-align: center;">Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p>	Date:	April 25, 2016
	Agenda Item No.	8
	Roll Call No.	<u>16-654</u>
	Communication No.	<u>16-217</u>
	Submitted by:	Pamela S. Cooksey, P.E., City Engineer

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving endorsement of the National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) Design Guides.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend endorsement of NACTO Design Guides that include: The Urban Street Design Guide, Transit Street Design Guide, and Urban Bikeway Design Guide. These guides outline a clear vision for complete streets with strong principles and practices. These guides are to be used as best practices to aid the City in realizing the goals and policies presented in the many planning and project design efforts underway. The guides will be used in conjunction with the Council-adopted Statewide Urban Design and Specifications (SUDAS) as the official design standards and standard specifications for the City of Des Moines.

FISCAL IMPACT: NONE

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The NACTO is a non-profit coalition of city transportation departments committed to raising the state of the art practice for street design and transportation. They have released two (2) guides, with another one (1) proposed to be released later this month:

- Urban Bikeway Design Guide (2011)--provides cities with state-of-the-practice solutions that can help create complete streets that are safe and enjoyable for bicyclists; and
- Urban Street Design Guide (2013)--flexible design manual and toolbox for cities to make city streets safer, more livable, and more economically vibrant; and
- Transit Street Design Guide (proposed release April 2016)--a guide with a new vision for how cities can harness the immense potential of transit to create active and efficient streets, in neighborhoods and downtowns alike.

Letters of support for endorsement of these guides have been provided to the City Manager by the Urban Land Institute Iowa, a District Council of the Urban Land Institute, Des Moines Area MPO, Greater Des Moines Partnership, Capital Crossroads, Downtown Community Alliance, Downtown Neighborhood Association, Historic East Village, Inc., Des Moines Bicycle Collective,

Greater Des Moines Public Art Foundation, AARP Iowa, Employers Mutual Casualty Company, Hubbell Realty Company, Kum & Go, and Wellmark.

These guides will be used in conjunction with SUDAS, the official design standards and standard specifications for the City of Des Moines, which are adopted by the City Council annually.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: April 6, 2015

Roll Call Number: [15-0571](#)

Action: [Approving](#) and adopting the Iowa Statewide Urban Design and Specifications (SUDAS) Design Manual, 2015 edition and the SUDAS Standard Specifications 2015 edition as the official design standards and standard specifications for the City of Des Moines, Iowa. ([Council Communication No. 15-175](#)) Moved by Mahaffey to adopt. Motion Carried 6-1.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

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