

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

	Number:	25-118	Meeting:	March 24, 2025
	Agenda Item:	19	Roll Call:	25-0429
	Submitted by:	Chris Johansen, Neighborhood Services Department Director		

AGENDA HEADING:

Approve merger of the Highland Park Neighborhood Association and Oak Park Neighbors in accordance with the Neighborhood Recognition Policy.

SYNOPSIS:

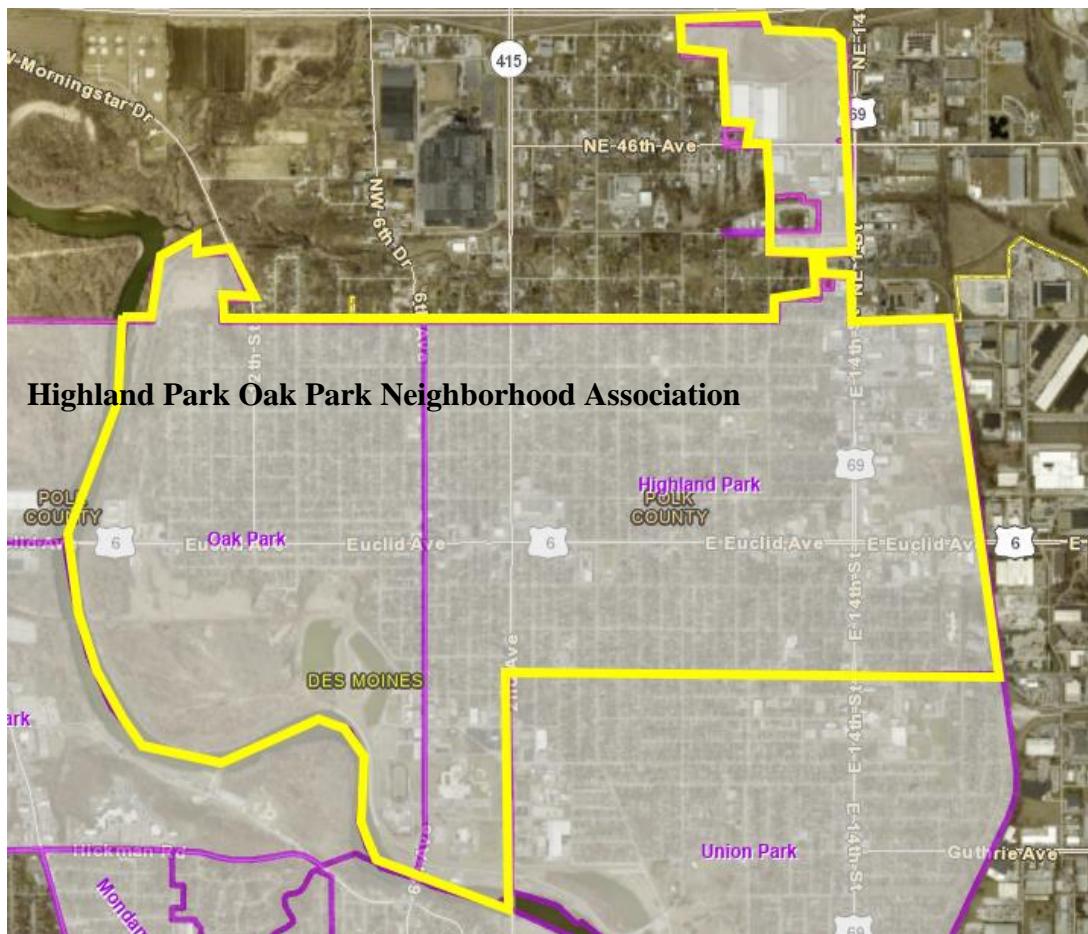
The Highland Park Neighborhood Association and Oak Park Neighbors request approval of a merger and creation of a new neighborhood association named Highland Park/Oak Park Neighborhood Association.

FISCAL IMPACT: NONE

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- Existing boundary area for the Highland Park Neighborhood Association is:
 - North: Northern City Limit
 - South: Des Moines River/Hull Avenue
 - East: Union Pacific Railroad Track
 - West: 6th Avenue
- Existing boundary area for the Oak Park Neighbors is:
 - North: Northern City Limit
 - South: Des Moines River
 - East: 6th Avenue
 - West: Des Moines River
- Proposed boundary of the Highland Park/Oak Park Neighborhood Association to include (see map):
 - North:
 - Northern City Limit between the Des Moines River and Union Pacific Railroad Track

- South:
 - Des Moines River to 2nd Avenue
 - Hull Avenue between 2nd Avenue and the Union Pacific Railroad Track
- East:
 - Union Pacific Railroad Track between the Northern City Limit and Hull Avenue
 - 2nd Avenue between Hull Avenue and the Des Moines River
- West:
 - Des Moines River between the Northern City Limit and 2nd Avenue



- In 2018, the Highland Park Neighborhood Association and Oak Park Neighbors formed an alliance that included:
 - Hosting joint neighborhood meetings and community events;
 - Adopting a shared, unified set of Bylaws;
 - Electing a shared Steering Committee (Board of Directors) with representatives from both neighborhoods;

- Managing a joint bank account; and
- Merging membership into a single community.
- The Highland Park Neighborhood Association and Oak Park Neighbors are two (2) of the first 25 neighborhood organizations to receive neighborhood recognition by the City of Des Moines on November 8, 1993, by Roll Call No. 93-444.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: February 3, 1997

Roll Call Number: 97-381

Action: Approving extension of boundaries for the Highland Park Neighborhood Association, to include the area annexed by the City, north of Aurora, west of E. 14th, and south of I-80, (correct Roll Call No. 97-216). Moved by Vlassis to adopt. Motion carried 7–0.

Date: January 20, 1997

Roll Call Number: 97-216

Action: Extension of boundaries for the Highland Park Neighborhood Association, to include the area annexed by the City, north of Broadway, west of E. 14th Street, and south of I-80. (Council Communication No. 97-026). Moved by McPherson to adopt. Motion carried 6–1.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

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