

★ **Roll Call Number**

Agenda Item Number

22

Date September 8, 2008

WHEREAS, the Greater Des Moines Community Foundation has grant funding for initiatives related to community betterment activities;

WHEREAS, the Police Department is requesting approval to submit a Letter of Intent to the Foundation requesting \$5,995 to fund a graffiti camera; and

WHEREAS, the graffiti camera will be used to capture images of individuals defacing property as well as deter graffiti vandalism on private and public property; and,

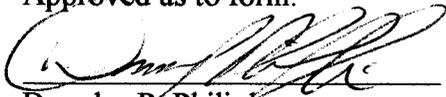
WHEREAS, there is no match requirement for this grant;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Des Moines, Iowa, that the submission of the Letter of Intent is hereby approved, with the Mayor authorized to sign the Letter on behalf of the City, with the City Clerk to attest to the mayor's signature, and the City Manager or is designee is authorized and directed to take any and all steps necessary to complete the submission.

(Council Letter Number 08-548 attached)

Moved by _____ to approve

Approved as to form:



Douglas P. Philip
Assistant City Attorney

COUNCIL ACTION	YEAS	NAYS	PASS	ABSENT
COWNIE				
COLEMAN				
HENSLEY				
KIERNAN				
MAHAFFEY				
MEYER				
VLASSIS				
TOTAL				
MOTION CARRIED			APPROVED	
_____ Mayor				

CERTIFICATE

I, DIANE RAUH, City Clerk of said City hereby certify that at a meeting of the City Council of said City of Des Moines, held on the above date, among other proceedings the above was adopted.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal the day and year first above written.

City Clerk

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COMMUNITY RESPONSE GRANT

LETTER OF INTENT COVER PAGE

Submit **THREE** hard copies of Letter of Intent and required materials by noon on the deadline date to:
Greater Des Moines Community Foundation
1915 Grand Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50309

LEGAL NAME OF NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/CEO
City of Des Moines	T. M. Franklin Cownie, Mayor
ADDRESS OF ORGANIZATION	
400 Robert D. Ray Drive	
CONTACT PERSON (IF DIFFERENT FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR)	TITLE
John L. Jones	Director
PHONE	FAX
515/283-4880	515/237-1648
EMAIL	FISCAL AGENT
jljones@dmgov.org	Cheryl Fridl
PROJECT TITLE	REQUESTED GRANT AMOUNT
South Side Graffiti Camera	\$5,995.00

Letter of Intent

Please use the following format to describe the intended use of the Community Response Grant, limiting the description to two pages (12 point font, one inch margins).

1. Describe the project for which you are requesting assistance from the Community Foundation.
2. Indicate desired impact and how you will measure and evaluate the results of the project. Be specific regarding community needs/issues your project will address.
3. Outline other resources or partners identified to assist with the project; other funding secured, applied for and proposed for the project; and amount you are requesting from the Community Foundation.

Attachments

- Attach a copy of the 501(c)(3) designation letter of organization or fiscal agent unless your organization is a governmental agency.
- Attach a projected budget for the project.
- Attach a list of the organization's Board of Directors with contact information and email addresses.
- Attach your Iowa Nonprofit Principals and Practices of Excellence Board resolution (if your board has adopted one).
- **Submit three hard copies of the Letter of Intent and required attachments.**

Please do not submit additional material not specified above.

Mayor

City Clerk

City of Des Moines Police Department
Letter of Intent
Greater Des Moines Community Foundation
BUDGET

Quantity	Description	Unit Price
1	Flash CAM-880 Digital Vandalism Deterrent System with Wireless Download System is powered by Solar Each System includes: 1-Wall mounting bracket 1-IR Keyfob controller 1-Batter Charger 1-1.0 Gigabyte Secure Digital Memory Card 1-Quick Move Adapter	5,995.00
1	Digital Memory Card Reader (1 per order) CD-ROM: SX-Link Wireless Software (1 per order) Mounting tools and User's Manual (1 per order)	0.00
TOTAL		\$5,995.00

The Des Moines Police Department's Intelligence Unit has the responsibility for documenting and investigating graffiti complaints in the City of Des Moines. With the use of a laptop, the officer can download the photos taken by the camera using the wireless capability.

CITY OF DES MOINES MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS

City Hall
400 Robert D. Ray Drive
Des Moines, IA 50309

Mayor-T.M. Franklin Cownie
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fcownie@dmgov.org

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September 8, 2008

Greater Des Moines Community Foundation
1915 Grand Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50309

RE: LETTER OF INTENT-Community Response Grant

The Des Moines Police Department, with the support of the Coalition of South Side Neighborhood Associations, is requesting grant funding for a graffiti camera to be used to capture graffiti vandalism incidents.

The Coalition of South Side Neighborhood Associations (CSSNA), a working group of nine (9) recognized neighborhood associations in the City of Des Moines, is concerned with the increase of graffiti vandalism on south side properties. Graffiti impacts our city in numerous ways. First, graffiti is a drain on our tax dollars. Funds that could be used for schools, roads, parks and other community improvements are used for graffiti clean up. Second, graffiti decreases a resident's feeling of safety in a community. Neighborhoods with graffiti see a decrease in property values and loss of business growth and tourism. Finally, graffiti sends a signal that nobody cares, which attracts other forms of crime and street delinquency to the neighborhood.

The CSSNA cares about the community. The City of Des Moines supports partnerships with the neighborhood associations through the successful Neighborhood Based Service Delivery Program. The City has invested heavily in property enhancements on the south side such as the Fleur Drive corridor. The SuperBlock Vision has been developed to enhance the economic development and social growth of the south side. Graffiti vandalism has been proven to reduce property values and results in a loss of business. The City of Des Moines, the Des Moines Police Department and the neighborhood associations do not want graffiti vandalism to diminish the vibrant projects that enhance the south side of Des Moines and bring economic benefits to the entire metro area.

A graffiti camera is a digital camera set inside a reinforced metal housing. The camera will be dedicated to the sole purpose of tracking down taggers, as graffiti artists are known, by actually snapping photos of their faces and other ways to identify the suspects. The camera can be mounted on a pole, a wall, or a building parapet overlooking an area where graffiti vandals might be tempted to do their work. The camera will have wireless download capability to enable police officers to download photographs onto a laptop computer. The officers can then investigate the pictures if there is a crime. The camera that has been recommended is a FlashCAM-880 Digital Vandalism Deterrent System with



CHIEF OF POLICE
25 EAST FIRST STREET
DES MOINES, IOWA 50309
(515) 283-4800

ALL-AMERICA CITY 1949,1976,1981

wireless download at a price of \$5,995 from Q-Star Technology located in Chatsworth, CA.

Our goal is to decrease the number of reports of graffiti vandalism. This can be achieved by identifying suspects and filing the appropriate charges. The knowledge that this crime-fighting tool is available will deter some criminal behavior. Previous experience with graffiti cameras has shown that the cameras act as a deterrent and that graffiti vandalism stops when a camera is in place.

A benefit to the City and taxpayers is the costs associated with the clean-up of graffiti will diminish. The Parks Department is responsible for the city-wide clean-up of graffiti. The cost of supplies is \$1,000 a month for paint overs, chemical removals and power washing. The Parks Department currently contracts the removals at \$400 a day with an average of four work days a month, for a total monthly cost of \$2,600 for removals.

The Police Department has many programs focusing on the betterment of our community. One such program is the Neighborhood Based Service Delivery Program which has eleven sergeants assigned to designated neighborhoods in the City of Des Moines. These sergeants work with members of other city departments as individual teams. Other team members include the Fire Department; Parks and Recreation; Water Works; Public Works and Housing/Health and Zoning. The primary objective of the teams is to assist the neighborhoods in identifying and prioritizing concerns, planning a course of action and implementing a solution to the problem.

Another program reinstated this year is the Crime Free Multi-Housing Program. The program educates landlords to cover property appearance and upkeep, applicant screening, rental agreements, the eviction process, spotting illegal activity and how to work with the police. Tenant meetings bring neighbors together to learn about crime prevention and encourage active involvement and cooperation with their landlord and police

These programs compliment each other and the partnerships between the police department and other departments in the city, multi-housing landlords and the neighborhood associations provide a strong framework in our goal of providing a safe and secure city for our citizens to live, work and play. Approval of the Des Moines Police Department's request of \$5,995 to fund a graffiti camera will provide an important tool to augment the programs supported by the City of Des Moines and the Des Moines Police Department. This camera will be shared by all nine of the neighborhood associations that make up CSSNA



Judy A. Bradshaw
Chief of Police