

Date December 17, 2007

ADOPTION OF THE "GOALS TO MAKE DES MOINES A BICYCLE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY"

WHEREAS, the Park and Recreation Department is charged with providing recreational opportunities and leisure activities throughout Des Moines; and

WHEREAS, the development of multi-use recreational trails, both on-street and off-street, is a high priority for the citizens of Des Moines and the Des Moines City Council; and

WHEREAS the Des Moines City Council wishes to become designated as a "Bicycle Friendly Community" by the League of American Bicyclists; and

WHEREAS, on October 8, 2007, by Roll Call No. 07-1993, the City Council receive and filed the "Goals to Make Des Moines A Bicycle Friendly Community" from the Des Moines Park and Recreation Boards' Trails and Greenways Advisory Committee, a copy of which is on file in the City Clerk's Office, and referred such Goals to the City Manager for review and recommendation; and

WHEREAS adopting the "Goals to Make Des Moines A Bicycle Friendly Community" is an important step to creating a more bicycle friendly community and achieving such designation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Des Moines, Iowa, that the "Goals to Make Des Moines A Bicycle Friendly Community", on file in the City Clerk's Office, is hereby adopted and the City Manager is directed to work toward implementing such goals.

(Council Communication No. 07-135)

MOVED by _____ to approve.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Ann DiDonato
Ann DiDonato

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

December 13, 2007

Mr. Rick Clark
City of Des Moines, City Manager
400 Robert D. Ray Drive
Des Moines, Iowa 50309

Dear Mr. Clark,

Please accept this as a strong voice of support for the "Creating a Bicycle Friendly Des Moines" document before your Council at the December 17, 2007 city council meeting.

In 2007, the city of Des Moines hosted the Hy-Vee Triathlon. Over 15,000 people from around the world came to this city for this event. These are some of the best conditioned athletes in the world, and they were here, running, swimming and biking in our parks and on our streets.

These athletes will return to our fine city next summer. Again, they will train on our streets and along our bike trails. A commitment from your Council to connect the trails and create on street (aka bicycle lanes) bicycle improvements will elevate both the Triathlon AND our city to a new and exciting level.

The time is right to make alternative transportation, such as bicycling, a priority in Des Moines. You have an economic incentive with the Triathlon. You have environmental benefits that fit with your desire to make Des Moines a "green" city. And, finally, there are the health benefits tied to having more active employees, something all of your big businesses are focusing on to improve their bottom lines.

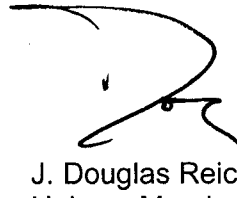
In addition to your Council's commitment, please know the private sector is dedicated to a bicycle friendly community, too. In fact, we are working with a group of citizens from a five county area to spearhead a "Friends of the Trails and Transportation" Group. This group will be working with our two companies to create a groundswell of enthusiasm for outdoor recreation. Our first \$1,000 contribution has been dedicated for the Great Western Trail from the county line to Martensdale. Additional money will be raised and distributed throughout the Central Iowa Trails system.

We are confident there is much support for your Council to vote to make Des Moines bicycle friendly. Thanks for your time and consideration.

Best regards,



Ric Jurgens, CEO and President
Hy-Vee, Inc.



J. Douglas Reichardt, Chairman
Holmes Murphy

