



Roll Call Number

Agenda Item Number

17

Date September 22, 2014

Communication from Michael Bowser, Chair of Des Moines Civil and Human Rights Commission, regarding Strategic Plan update.

Moved by _____ to receive and file.

COUNCIL ACTION	YEAS	NAYS	PASS	ABSENT
COWNIE				
COLEMAN				
GATTO				
GRAY				
HENSLEY				
MAHAFFEY				
MOORE				
TOTAL				

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.

MOTION CARRIED APPROVED

_____ Mayor

_____ City Clerk



Commissioners

Michael Bowser, Chair
Christine Manbeck, Vice Chair
Peggy Dandy, Secretary
Francis Boggus
Kathy Collins Reilly
Daniel Garza
Margo Jones

Staff

Rudolph Simms, Jr., Director
Vern M. Ostrander, Sr., HRS
Mikel J. Johnson, MS, HRS
Doug Philip, Attorney

602 Robert D. Ray Drive
Des Moines, Iowa 50309
515-283-4284

August 14, 2014

Progress Update of the Des Moines Civil and Human Rights Commission

Honorable Mayor Cownie and City Council Members,

I am writing to update you on the implementation of the Strategic Plan for the Des Moines Civil and Human Rights Commission.

As you know, the Council and Commission last met April 28, 2014 to discuss how the respective bodies would begin implementation of the plan. On May 19, 2014 the Council took action on recommendations directed to the Council in the Strategic Plan.

Immediately following Council's action the City Manager's office began coordinating with Commission Staff and identified areas to streamline for efficiency. This transition has occurred parallel to the ongoing transition in the City Manager's office and we are grateful for the increased efforts of the office on behalf of the Commission.

The Commission met August 10, 2014 to evaluate progress made, and prioritize remaining pieces of the Strategic Plan. A complete analysis will be included in our annual report next month. Commissioners are aggressively targeting three goals for completion during the remaining fiscal year. They are: 1) Expand Number of Investigations Closed, 2) Implement Marketing and Media Plan and 3) Advance Justice & Equality, Community Engagement, and Advocacy through Expanded Educational Programs. This will in part be working in concert with the City Manager's office and the Information Technology Department to identify and implement improvements in the Civil and Human Rights Department's procedures.

I am excited by the partnerships being forged during this process and the additional capacity the Civil and Human Rights Department will gain as we identify efficiencies from this collaboration.

Your time and support is valued, as always. Please contact me with any questions, concerns or suggestions you may have.

Sincerely,

Michael Bowser
Chairman, Des Moines Civil and Human Rights Commission