

Date November 18, 2019

**DIRECTION TO THE CITY MANAGER REGARDING A  
TAX LEVY RATE DECREASE FOR THE HOMEOWNERS  
AND SMALL BUSINESSES OF THE CITY OF DES MOINES**

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council acknowledge that affordable homes and neighborhoods are critical to the success of our City; and

WHEREAS, keeping property taxes low is critical to ensuring our City remains affordable; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council have already lowered the City's total property tax levy rate by 60 cents per \$1,000 in value in 2019; and

WHEREAS, the City has new revenue from the Local Option Sales and Services Tax and the City's homeowners are experiencing rising home values; and


WHEREAS, at the November 18, 2019 Council Work Session, the Mayor proposed decreasing the total property tax rate an additional 40 cents per \$1000 in valuation and the Council believes that such an additional decrease is appropriate and for the benefit of its citizens and small business owners resulting in a cumulative total property tax levy decrease of \$1 in 2019, to the lowest tax rate in 24 years.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DES MOINES, IOWA:**

That the City Manager is hereby directed to produce a recommended budget to the City Council for the 2020-21 Fiscal Year, which reduces the City's total property tax levy by at least an additional 40 cents per \$1000 in valuation.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ to adopt.



Jeffrey D. Lester  
City Attorney

COUNCIL ACTION	YEAS	NAYS	PASS	ABSENT
COWNIE				
BOESEN				
COLEMAN				
GATTO				
GRAY				
MANDELBAUM				
WESTERGAARD				
TOTAL				

MOTION CARRIED APPROVED

**CERTIFICATE**

I, P. Kay Cmelik, 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.

\_\_\_\_\_ Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_ City Clerk