



Roll Call Number

Agenda Item Number

44 A

Date January 13, 2020

**APPROVAL OF GRANT OF \$40,000 TO POLK COUNTY, IOWA
FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A WELCOMING CENTER FOR
FOREIGN-BORN POPULATIONS IN THE GREATER DES MOINES AREA**

WHEREAS, greater Des Moines has a long history of welcoming immigrants and refugees from throughout the world and such foreign-born population has grown substantially in the last decade; and

WHEREAS, the substantial growth of foreign-born population in greater Des Moines has been the result of opportunities for a better quality of life and economic growth as well as availability of services to individuals and families; and

WHEREAS, foreign-born populations have experienced challenges in accessing services and navigating complex service systems and a report commissioned by the City of Des Moines, Greater Des Moines Partnership and Polk County has recommended the creation of a welcoming center for the foreign-born in greater Des Moines; and

WHEREAS, the welcoming center will provide basic functions for the foreign-born population including serving as an information source on services available to the foreign-born, assisting the foreign-born in navigating service systems and institutions needed to survive and thrive, making referrals to area services and service providers, conducting needs assessments and providing of immediate services to the foreign-born, hosting basic services such as English as a second language classes and other educational opportunities, providing community space for ethnic community gatherings, celebrations and festivals, and providing office space for services related to assisting the foreign-born.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Des Moines, Iowa that the Council determines that the welcoming center for the foreign-born population in greater Des Moines will preserve and improve the peace, safety, health, welfare, comfort and convenience of the residents of the City.

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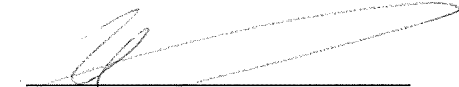
-2-

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the grant payment in the amount of \$40,000 to Polk County, Iowa for establishing and maintaining a welcoming center for the foreign-born population in greater Des Moines is hereby approved and the City Manager is hereby authorized and directed to make such payment to Polk County, Iowa and to provide appropriate assistance to the welcoming center in partnership with Polk County, Iowa and the Greater Des Moines Partnership.

Moved by _____ to adopt.

Approved as to Form:

(Council Communication No. 20-016)


Lawrence R. McDowell
Deputy City Attorney

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COUNCIL ACTION	YEAS	NAYS	PASS	ABSENT
COWNIE				
BOESEN				
GATTO				
GRAY				
MANDELBAUM				
VOXX				
WESTERGAARD				
TOTAL				
MOTION CARRIED			APPROVED	
_____ Mayor				

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.

City Clerk