

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
DES MOINES, IOWA

ITEM 53
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CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION 97-060
FEBRUARY 3, 1997 AGENDA

SUBJECT:	TYPE:	SUBMITTED BY:
DONATION OF A SUNSHINE COACH VAN TO BLANK PARK ZOO	◆ RESOLUTION ORDINANCE RECEIVE/FILE	DONALD M. TRIPP PARK AND RECREATION DIRECTOR

SYNOPSIS —

Propose Council action to accept the donation of a Sunshine Coach Van to the Blank Park Zoo.

FISCAL IMPACT —

Impact on Operating Budget is revenue positive. Average annual outreach program fees generate \$6,500 in income, with annual operating costs of \$1,061 for vehicle maintenance and \$312 for supplies. There is no equipment replacement cost, as this donation replaces a previously-donated van.

RECOMMENDATION —

Approval of donation of the van.

BACKGROUND —

The Variety Club of Iowa has selected the Blank Park Zoo as one of the recipients this year for the donation of a new Sunshine Coach Van. The \$25,000 gift was funded jointly by the Variety Club and the Blank Park Zoo Foundation.

This vehicle will replace the current van, which was donated to the City in 1986 by Farmland Insurance Companies. The 1986 vehicle will be retired, as it is in poor mechanical and physical condition.

The van is used by the Zoo for its Zoomobile outreach programs to provide educational presentations to Central Iowa schools, hospitals, nursing homes, senior centers, and at community events. Last year, the Zoo staff and volunteers conducted 258 presentations to 7,801 people:

- 173 Living Classroom presentations at 21 schools to 5,161 students
- 11 Special Audience programs to 900 people
- 11 Speakers Bureau presentations to 500 people
- 45 Career Programs to 335 students
- 18 Senior Programs to 905 people

The obligation to the City is to maintain the vehicle, submit an annual report consisting of a brief statement of use and a photograph, and to contact the City prior to disposal for any reason.

The Zoo Administrator will have the responsibility for timely execution of these requirements.