

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
DES MOINES, IOWA

ITEM 70

CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION 97-173
APRIL 7, 1997 AGENDA

SUBJECT:	TYPE:	SUBMITTED BY:
FOREST AVENUE/ML KING URBAN RENEWAL AREA	◆ RESOLUTION ORDINANCE RECEIVE/FILE	JAMES GRANT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

SYNOPSIS —

The purpose of this roll call is to approve a resolution stating that the Forest Avenue/ML King Urban Renewal Plan will be considered at a public hearing to be held before the City Council on April 28, 1997. It directs the City Clerk to publish a notice of the hearing in the Des Moines Register. In addition, the plan is submitted for review and recommendation by the Urban Renewal Board on April 15 and the Plan & Zoning Commission on April 17.

The boundaries of the urban renewal plan are approximately 19th Street on the east, three lots north of Forest Avenue on the north, 21st Street on the west, and University Avenue on the south. The overall goal of the urban renewal plan is to facilitate commercial development, provide employment opportunities, and support efforts to improve residential quality in surrounding areas.

FISCAL IMPACT —

CDBG funds in the amount of \$89,304 have been designated for use on this project. Tax Increment Financing is not being implemented at this time.

RECOMMENDATION —

Acceptance and approval of a resolution:

1. Setting April 28, 1997 as the public hearing date for consideration of the proposed Forest Avenue/ML King Urban Renewal Plan.
2. Authorizing the City Clerk to post notice of this hearing in the Des Moines Register on April 11, 1997.
3. Submitting the proposed Plan for review and recommendation by the Urban Renewal Board and the Plan and Zoning Commission.

BACKGROUND —

In July 1996, the City Council directed staff to prepare an urban renewal plan for the corner of Forest Avenue and ML King, Jr. Parkway. Revitalizing this corner was also identified as a goal for the Carpenter/Drake Park Neighborhood Action Plan which was approved by the City Council on September 19, 1995, by Roll Call No. 95-3594.

In August 1997, staff were allocated \$89,304 in CDBG funds for the purpose of acquiring and demolishing properties located on the southeast corner of ML King and Forest Avenue. The creation

and approval of the Forest Avenue/ML King Urban Renewal Plan is part of the project design for that funding.

Since August, an Implementation Committee consisting of representative from neighborhood organizations and businesses has met on a monthly basis to create this plan. In addition, staff attended meetings of the Enterprise Community and the Model Cities CSTF to inform them of the plan and its goals. There was a public meeting at King Elementary School on March 12, 1997, and notice of the meeting was sent to all property owners and businesses located within the boundaries of the urban renewal plan.

The proposed Forest Avenue/ML King Urban Renewal Plan is ready for a public approval process. This resolution states that the plan will be considered at a public hearing to be held before the City Council on April 28, 1997 at 5:30 PM in the City Council Chambers. A notice of this public hearing will be published in the Des Moines Register on April 11, 1997. The plan will be reviewed by the Urban Renewal Board on April 15, 1997, and by the Plan & Zoning Commission on April 17, 1997; their recommendations will be forwarded to the City Council before the public hearing.