



Agenda Item:

50

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION City Manager's Office

GENERAL INFORMATION

Agenda Date: 07/26/2004

Communication

No.:04-363

Agenda Item Type: Resolution

Roll Call

No.:

Submitted by: Jeb E. Brewer, P.E., City Engineer
Donald M. Tripp, Park and Recreation Director

SUBJECT—

Approval to permanently close Riverside Drive from Court Avenue to SW Water Street.

SYNOPSIS—

By Roll Call 03-2880, dated December 22, 2003, City Council resolved that Riverside Drive be closed. Plan and Zoning Commission provided a recommendation for the closure with conditions. The conditions have been addressed. The Riverpoint Trail is currently under construction and will require the permanent closure of Riverside Drive. The City Engineer will coordinate the closure to occur after August 8, 2004.

FISCAL IMPACT—

This action will not involve expenditure of funds from the City Capital Improvements Program.

RECOMMENDATION—

Approval

BACKGROUND—

The American Discovery Trail - Riverpoint Segment and Des Moines River Outfall and Overflow projects require the permanent closure of Riverside Drive from Court Avenue to SW Water Street. The Riverpoint Trail is currently under construction. The Des Moines River Outfall and Overflow project is scheduled to begin this winter.

The City Council included three conditions to be met prior to closing Riverside Drive in Roll Call 03-2880 which have been addressed as follows:

1. Riverside Drive be closed after traffic issues are resolved on Water Street - The construction related impacts to Water Street have essentially been resolved as construction of the Waterstreet Brownstones/Vine Street Lofts nears completion.
2. Utility poles be reviewed for moving lines underground – MidAmerican Energy has provided information on the cost of converting their facilities to underground. At this time, funds have not been identified to cover the City’s share of this conversion. This work will be further reviewed as the plans for the Principal Riverwalk proceed.
3. The railroad crossing be reviewed and considered for improvement – This crossing was included in an agreement between the City and Iowa Interstate Railroad. The City reimbursed Iowa Interstate Railroad for the actual cost to upgrade the crossing with precast concrete panels.