

 <p style="text-align: center;">Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p>	Date:	July 14, 2014
	Agenda Item No.	25B
	Roll Call No.	<u>14-1049</u>
	Communication No.	<u>14-334</u>
	Submitted by:	Phillip Delafield, Community Development Director

AGENDA HEADING:

Removal of the Laurel Hill Neighborhood Association from the list of recognized neighborhoods.

SYNOPSIS:

As part of the City’s Neighborhood Recognition Policy, recognized neighborhoods are required to submit a variety of information once a year to maintain their recognized status. To facilitate this requirement, staff prepares an annual survey form and mails it to the neighborhood association officers. This year the survey was mailed February 28, 2014 and was due March 31, 2014. Two (2) reminder letters were sent on April 1st and April 30th. As of Wednesday, June 25, 2014, staff has received completed surveys from 54 of the 56 recognized neighborhoods. The two (2) remaining neighborhoods are Hillsboro and Laurel Hill. Numerous attempts have been made to follow up with the Hillsboro and Laurel Hill neighborhood to obtain the survey information. Laurel Hill returned an incomplete survey that indicated that they have not been meeting regularly and have taken a “sabbatical” because they are struggling with membership.

FISCAL IMPACT: NONE

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The Laurel Hill Neighborhood did not respond to the annual survey in 2011 or 2012. However, the decision was made to allow them to continue as an “inactive” neighborhood. Since then the City has implemented a new neighborhood notification policy that requires neighborhoods to be more accountable for receiving and disseminating information from the City and other community stakeholders. Because of this, it is very difficult to allow a neighborhood to continue in an inactive status. In their 2014 survey, Laurel Hill has once again indicated that they are inactive and have taken a “sabbatical”.

On July 2, 2014, the Neighborhood Revitalization Board made a recommendation that the City Council remove Laurel Hill from the list of recognized neighborhoods for failing to comply with the Neighborhood Recognition Policy. De-recognition of Laurel Hill does not preclude them from reorganizing in the future and applying to become recognized again.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S):

Board: Neighborhood Revitalization Board

Date: July 2, 2014

Resolution Number: N/A

Action: Recommend that the City Council of the City of Des Moines remove the Laurel Hill Neighborhood Association from the list of Recognized Neighborhoods.

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

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