

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: **AMES INTERNATIONAL PARTNER CITIES ASSOCIATION, INC.
2011/12 FUNDING CONTRACT**

BACKGROUND:

During approval of the 2011/12 Budget, the City Council included \$3,000 in funding for use by the Ames International Partner Cities Association, Inc. (AIPCA).

Each year the parties enter into this agreement to confirm the manner in which AIPCA will use this funding. This contract is similar to those utilized for arts agency and human service agency funding. The AIPCA contract specifically describes the Association's scope of services as follows:

To undertake such activities as will foster and promote friendly relations and mutual understanding between the people of Ames, Iowa, and people of similar cities of other nations; and, to act as a coordinating influence among those organizations, groups, and individuals desiring to engage in activities furthering those objectives and purposes.

This is the eighteenth year during which the Council has funded the activities of this group. The timing of exchanges with Koshu City is uncertain during 2011/12, given the continuing effects of the tsunami upon Japan. For the first time in several years, the Association will be hosting a visit this coming fall from Frydek-Mistek in the Czech Republic.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the 2011/12 funding contract with the AIPCA in an amount not to exceed \$3,000.
2. Do not approve a funding contract for 2011/12 with AIPCA.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

This contract represents an ongoing commitment from the City to fund the Partner Cities Association, which originally was created as a City committee and was later transformed into a non-profit association.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative #1, thereby approving the 2011/12 funding contract with the AIPCA in an amount not to exceed \$3,000.