ITEM: <u>22</u> DATE: <u>03-03-09</u>

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: REVISIONS TO THE PARKING METER MAP FOR DOWNTOWN LOTS U AND V

BACKGROUND:

On November 25, 2008, City Council referred to staff a letter from the Main Street Cultural District (MSCD) regarding two potential changes to the downtown area. These were as follows: 1) revise the maximum time limited parking in the Depot Lots U and V from three hours to four hours to bring them in line with the Central Business district (CBD) Parking Lots' existing time limit of four hours; and 2) to provide additional directional signage to Municipal Lots in the MSCD.

Since that time staff has met with the MSCD members to work through the details of the proposed changes and to confirm their consistency with the overall vision for improving parking in the downtown area. Staff plans to work with the MSCD members regarding the actual placement of the additional signage. The current sign inventory and budget should absorb this request based upon the fact it will involve the placement of eight to ten signs to fulfill both requests. However, the modifications to Municipal Lots U & V require specific approval by City Council.

The City of Ames Parking Meter Map is an official document approved by City Council that specifies all regulations for municipal lots and on-street parking for Downtown and Campustown parking areas. By Municipal Code, City Council makes revisions to lots and on-street parking by through the Parking Meter Map by way of resolution.

ALTERNATIVES:

- 1. Approve the revised Parking Meter Map, showing Municipal Lots U and V having a maximum time limit of four hours.
- 2. Do not approve the requested changes to the Parking Meter Map.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

By approving the revisions to the official Parking Meter Map, the City of Ames can be responsive to the Main Street Cultural Distinct in improving the consistency of parking regulation in the Downtown Service Center.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, thereby approving the revised Parking Meter Map, showing Municipal Lots U and V having a maximum time limit of four hours.

