

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: 2013/14 NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT GRANT

BACKGROUND:

The City Council has appropriated Local Option Sales Tax funds to finance the Neighborhood Improvement Program (NIP). As listed in the approved Capital Improvements Plan, \$50,000 has been approved for neighborhood programs, with \$25,000 earmarked for the NIP and the remaining \$25,000 allocated for a broader array of neighborhood projects to be determined by the City Council.

There are two main goals of the NIP: (1) to strengthen a neighborhood's appearance with the addition of permanent physical improvements, and (2) to promote a greater sense of community through resident participation in a neighborhood project.

Each project application is rated on the following 100-point system. A project must achieve at least 50 points to be considered:

Resident Involvement (30 points maximum):*

...the number of residents donating their time and/or labor to accomplish the project

...the number of residents donating funds to the project

*10 points 1-25 people; 20 points 26-50 people; 30 points over 50 people

Project Impact (30 points maximum):**

...the number of residents who will be positively affected by the improvement

**10 points 1-25 people; 20 points 26-100 people; 30 points over 100 people

Safety (10 points maximum):

...enhancement of safety in the neighborhood

Public Space (10 points maximum):

...promotion of social interaction by utilizing public space

Improved Housing (10 points maximum)

Environment (10 points maximum):

...support for the environment

One grant application for FY 2013/14 has been received to date. It was scored by the Review Panel on July 2, 2013, and received more than enough points to be recommended for approval by the City Council.

The project is as follows:

HISTORIC OLD TOWN PARK IMPROVEMENTS: The project includes a fence, two additional benches, and a landscaped perennial bed along the east side of Old Town Park (826 Douglas Avenue). The proposed bed would be edged in limestone to match the two existing beds. A Certificate of Appropriateness has been received from the Planning and Housing Department ensuring that the fence meets Old Town Historic District design guidelines. The Historic Old Town Neighborhood Association has been involved in planning and maintaining the landscaped areas of the Park for many years. This project is Part 3 of a four-part plan for the Park.

The total cost of the project is \$9,650.53. The City's Parks and Recreation Department is providing \$3,000 in funding and installing the benches, which is valued at \$1,400. Requested City grant funding is in the amount of \$2,625.27. The applicants will be providing in-kind labor and cash in the amount of \$2,625.27.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. The City Council can approve the expenditure of \$2,625.27 to fund a NIP grant for the Historic Old Town Park Improvements Project.
2. The City Council can reject the project for funding at this time.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Supporting projects that strengthen neighborhoods is in keeping with one of the City Council's goals. It is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative #1, thereby approving a Neighborhood Improvement Program grant in the amount of \$2,625.27 for the Historic Old Town Park Improvements.

**Request for Funding
NIP Grant
by the
Historic Old Town
Neighborhood
Association
June 11, 2013**

1. Describe the improvement project:

This project includes a fence, two additional benches, and a landscaped perennial bed along the east side of Old Town Park at 826 Douglas Ave. The Historic Old Town Neighborhood Association (HOTNA) has been involved in planning and care of the landscaped areas of the park for many years. This project is part three (3) of a four-part plan for the park. The proposed bed would be edged in limestone to match two existing beds.

To the east of the bed, bordering the alley, is the fence location. The fence will provide a barrier along the park edge delineating the east park boundary. The children's play equipment is located just to the west of the landscaped bed. Benches (supplied and installed by Parks and Rec staff) would be located between the bed and the playground. These benches will match those installed at the northwest corner of the play equipment. The fence would be composed of decorative wooden posts and historic wire mesh materials. A certificate of appropriateness has been received from the city planning department insuring that the fence meets Old Town Historic District design guidelines (see attachment 1).

2. List names and addresses of those people who will benefit.

All people visiting the park will benefit from this project. This includes neighborhood residents, hospital-medical staff, visitors to the neighborhood, and especially children as the fence enhances safety along the east side of the park. The bed and fence will enhance the appearance of the park and contribute to the enjoyment of all visitors to the park. The park is heavily used, but, statistics are not available as to specific numbers. All 39 people specifically listed on form C, along with others, will benefit by completion of this project.

3. Attach drawings, sketches, or plans of the project.

See attachment 2.

4. What is the total estimated cost of the proposed project?

Also see forms A+B

Detailed Budget Work Sheet

Fence

materials	\$1175.00
labor	900.00
Total	\$2075.00

Limestone Bed

Total	\$3,645.53
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Perennial plants	\$1,500.00
Bench installation	1,400.00
HOTNA labor	1,030.00
Project Grand Total	\$9,650.53
from P&R:	
cash	- 3,000.00
bench installation	- 1,400.00

**Project total for
NIP purposes \$5,250.53**

NIP grant Request	\$2,625.27
HOTNA	
in kind labor*	\$1,030.00
cash	\$1,595.27
total match	\$2,625.27

*in kind labor match:

planning/leadership team	20 hrs x \$10/hr = \$200
landscape design for the bed	5 hrs x \$10 = \$50
planting	4 hours x 9 people x \$10 = \$ 360
weeding, watering	6 hours x 5 people x \$10 = \$300
board members (meetings)	2 hrs x 6 people x \$10 = \$120
Total in kind labor	\$1030.00

5. Names and addresses, with signatures of those who will contribute.
Use form C (see attached)

6. Explain how the project will enhance safety in the neighborhood.

Currently there is no separation between the east border of the park and the north-south alley (see picture 3). Previously there was a raised bed framed with railroad ties in this location. The ties were badly deteriorated and pins holding the ties together were sticking up through the framing members creating a dangerous situation. Plants in the bed were overgrown and difficult to maintain. This bed was removed in the fall of 2012 leaving the east border of the park with no separation from the adjacent alley. Installation of a fence along this east boundary greatly enhances the safety of children using the park by clearly delineating where the park ends and separating children from alley traffic. The landscaped bed will act as a buffer between the play area and the fence enhancing the safety function of the fence.

7. How will the project promote usage of public space as a gathering place for neighbors?

The fence, landscaped bed, and the additional benches will enhance usage of the gathering space by providing a safe separation between the alley and the play equipment. The benches are conveniently located near the play equipment. Many parents of young children use this play equipment. Near-by benches would promote gathering and conversations between parents and visitors as children use the equipment. Additional seating in the park encourages all visitors to linger and converse with others in the park.

8. Improvement of housing in the neighborhood. Not applicable.

9. How will the project benefit the environment?

The fence and landscaped bed will both function as alley improvements since they border the alley running behind the park. Currently this space is bare dirt (see picture 3). The bed and plants will prevent water run off and soil erosion from this area of the park. The plants also filter the air and contribute to good air quality. The bed contributes to the beauty of the park and the alley. The HOTNA has been working to establish a "garden appearance" in the park with the addition of landscaped beds. This would be the third such bed contributing to this plan. Perennials of various colors and bloom periods will contribute to the overall beauty and garden theme of the park.

Applicant Name: Historic Old Town Neighborhood Association

Project Leaders:

Sharon Wirth, 803 Burnett Ave; sharonwirth@yahoo.com;
home: 233-2415; work: 294-6964

Nick Howell, 918 Burnett Ave; nhowell42@msn.com
home: 233-3553

Peter Hallock, 114 8th St; phhallock@yahoo.com
cell: 509-1488

Date Submitted: June 11, 2013

Attachment 1

City of Ames Certificate of Appropriateness for *826 Douglas Avenue*

Property Owner: *City of Ames*
Legal Description: *Lot 12, Block 29, Blairs Add.*
Zoning District: RM, O-SFC
Preservation District: *Old Town Historic District*

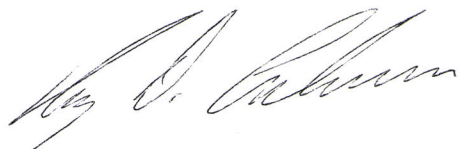
Certificate For:

- Construction of a fence with decorative wood posts and historic wire mesh materials that meet the permitted materials and design for fences in the Old Town Historic District, in the location shown on the drawing included with the application for a Certificate of Appropriateness.*

*Administrative Approval

- Approval of this Certificate of Appropriateness is effective for one (1) year from the date of approval.

Dated this 16th day of May, 2013.



Ray D. Anderson, Planner
Department of Planning & Housing

Certificate No. 2013-2

Attachment 2

fencing

Alley

8" LIMESTONE
SOIL BY CITY
BBS BY VA

APPROX. 1.5EA
LEIGHERS

Landscaped Bed
w/ limestone
edging

CONCRETE SLAB W/ BENCHES
PROVIDED BY CITY

MULTI-ALL-DIRTY AREAS
LAUNDER MARLE

EXISTING PLAY
STRUCTURE

WALK

Douglas Ave



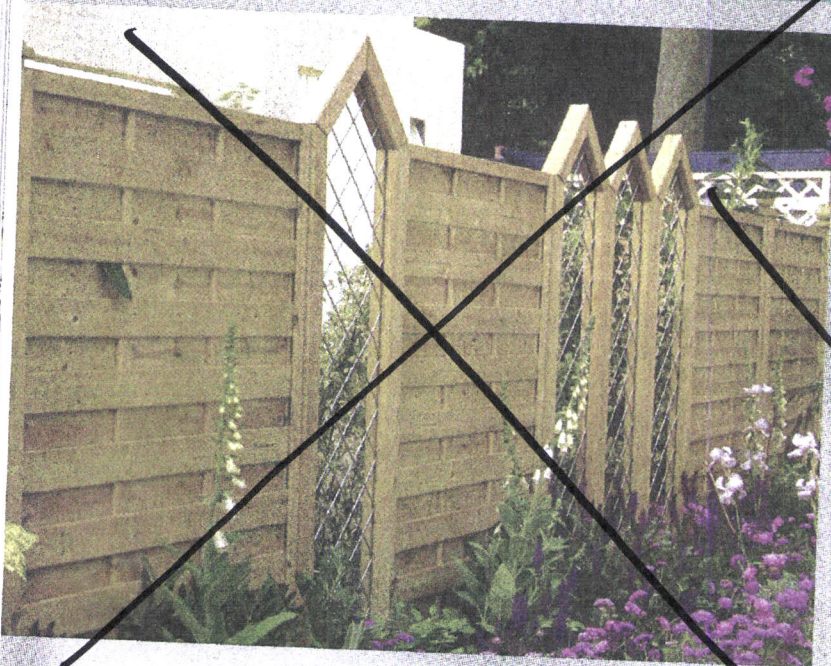
DATE

SCALE



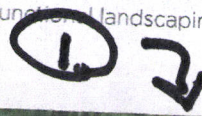
Attachment 2, Picture 1

STYLE GALLERY



Mesh fencing is first and foremost a utility-enclosure to the right. With creativity, however, it can be used for a number of decorative landscaping and architectural purposes.

this one using historic wire mesh ↓

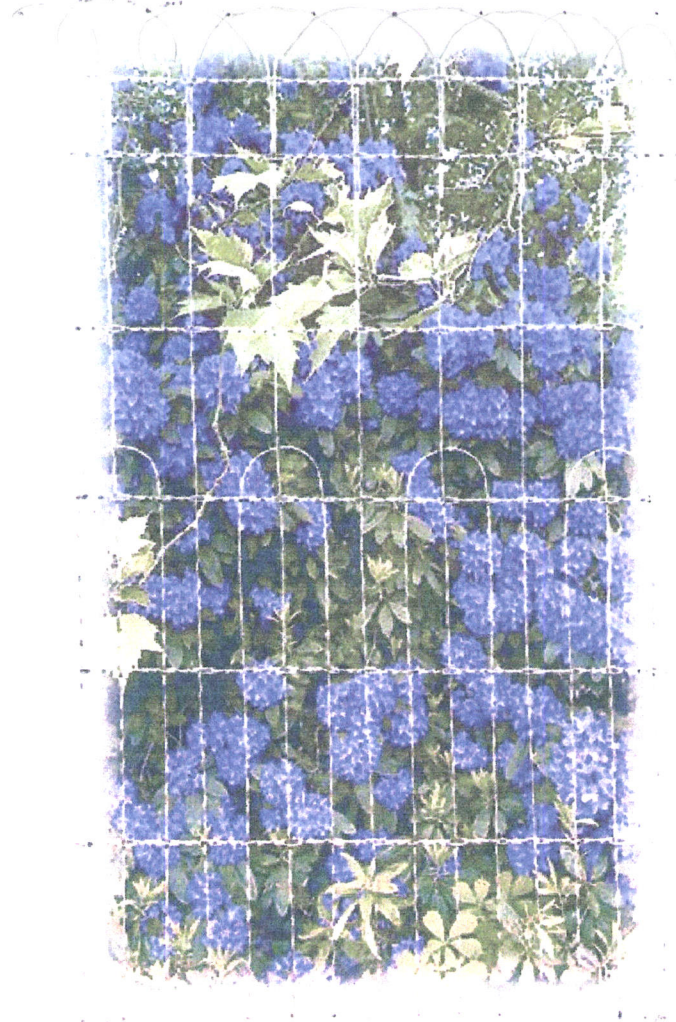


Attachment 2, Picture 2

Large Image Popup on Hutchison Incorporated

Page 1 of 1

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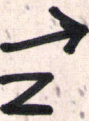
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Picture 3



↑ Fence Location

Alley



Forms A, B, and C

Form A: Worksheet for itemizing materials

Description of Item	Quantity	Unit	Unit Price	Extended Cost
Fence materials				1175
Fence labor				900
Limestone bed edging and labor				3,645.53
Perennial plants				1,500
Total Cost of Materials				₱ 7,220.53

FORM C: List individuals who will contribute to your project.

Make copies of this form as needed.

Name	Address	Signature	Donation
Sandra Loopf	723 Duff Ave.	Sloopf	labor materials cash
Torey Loopf	723 Duff Ave.	Torey Loopf	labor materials cash
Anne Kinzel	720 Duff Ave	Anne Kinzel	labor materials cash
LOU CATHART	720 Duff Ave	Lou Cathart	labor materials cash
Kathy Bennett	111 8 th St	Kathy Bennett	labor materials cash
Cheryl Bingen	707 Burnett	Cheryl Bingen # 20	labor materials cash
			labor materials cash
			labor materials cash
			labor materials cash

FORM C: List individuals who will contribute to your project.


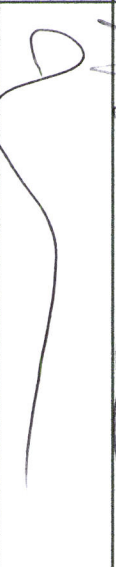
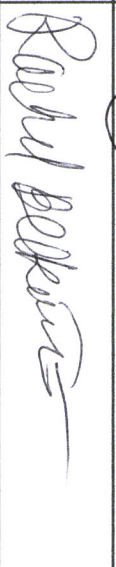


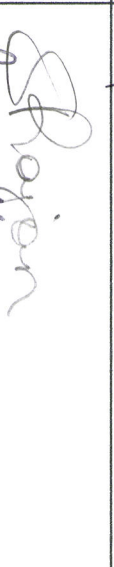
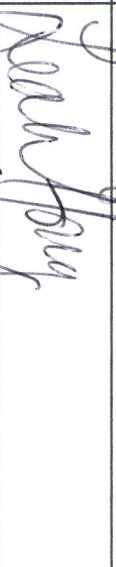
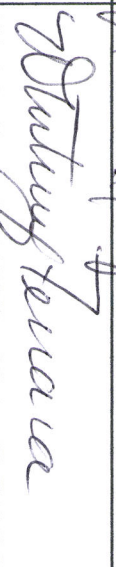
Make copies of this form as needed.

Name	Address	Signature	Donation
Sharon Wirth	803 Burnett	Sharon K Wirth \$20	labor materials cash
Sue Prins	411 8th	SAE Prins \$20	labor materials cash
Karen Jacobs	911 Burnett Ave	Karen Jacobs \$20	labor materials cash
Nick Howell	918 Burnett Ave	Nick Howell	labor materials cash
Peter Hallok	114 - 8th St	Peter Hallok	labor materials cash
Virginia H. Shenk Ginny Shenk	720 Kellogg Apt. 302	Virginia H. Shenk	labor materials cash
Linda Shank	904 Clark Ave	Linda Shank	labor materials cash
Judy Wae	903 Clark Ave	Judy Wae	labor materials cash
Jim Popken	920 Clark Ave	Jim Popken	labor materials cash

paid

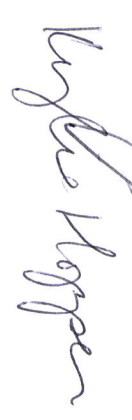
FORM C: List individuals who will contribute to your project.

Make copies of this form as needed.

Name	Address	Signature	Donation
Hannah Frederick	816 Burnett Ave		labor materials cash \$10
Molly McDonzly	1015 Clear Ave		labor materials cash
Rachel Beckwith	820 Douglas Ave		labor materials cash
kim CORBIN	721 BURNETT AVE		labor materials cash
BRET Cobb	316 1/2 nd Street		labor materials cash
RUTH POWELL	413 10 th St	RTP	labor materials cash
Shariene RAYAN	809 Burnett Ave		labor materials cash \$5
Leah Hong	818 Burnett Ave.		labor materials cash
Mithay Ferraria	810 Burnett Ave		labor materials cash

Kylie Hopper







810 Burnett Ave.



labor

FORM C: List individuals who will contribute to your project.

Make copies of this form as needed.

Name	Address	Signature	Donation
David Carter	708 Douglas Ave		labor materials cash \$200
Lisa Muehlbach	213 7th St		labor materials cash
Maurice Shandour Marzell Sandourk	700 Kellogg		labor materials cash
Jeremy Westbrook Abby Roduska	704 Kellogg Ave		labor materials cash
Doug Paris Becky Paris	709 Duff Ave		labor materials cash
Rhianon Hansen	722 Douglas Ave		labor materials cash
			labor materials cash
			labor materials cash
			labor materials cash

Turn in Sunday 6:00 PM to Sharon

FORM C: List individuals who will contribute to your project.

Make copies of this form as needed.

Name	Address	Signature	Donation
Barbara Buehler	907 Stewart Ave, Dr	Barbara Buehler	labor materials cash 10.00
Carla Dixon	916 Clark	Carla Dixon	labor materials cash 20.00
Ann M	912 Clark	Ann M	labor materials cash
			labor materials cash
			labor materials cash
			labor materials cash
			labor materials cash
			labor materials cash
			labor materials cash

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Name	Address	Signature	Donation
Denise Denton	902 Joyce Leas	<i>Denise Denton</i>	labor materials cash 100 th
Lori Sulzberger	905 Douglas	<i>Lori Sulzberger</i>	labor materials cash 20 th rd
Bob Harvey	3185 97th St	<i>Bob Harvey</i>	labor materials cash
			labor materials cash
			labor materials cash
			labor materials cash
			labor materials cash
			labor materials cash
			labor materials cash