

**STUDY SESSION
DES MOINES CITY COUNCIL
March 4, 2010 - 7:30 p.m.**

CALL TO ORDER - Mayor Sheckler called the meeting to order at 8:02 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG - Councilmember Scott Thomasson led the flag salute.

ROLL CALL Present were Mayor Sheckler; Mayor Pro-Tem Dave Kaplan; Councilmembers Matt Pina, Dan Sherman, Carmen Scott, Scott Thomasson, Melissa Musser. Staff present were City Manager Tony Piasecki, Assistant City Manager Lorri Ericson, City Attorney Pat Bosmans; Assistant City Attorney Susan Mahoney; Planning Building and Public Works Director Grant Fredricks; Planning Manager Denise Lathrop; Interim Economic Development Director Marion Yoshino; Assistant Director of Transportation and Engineering Dan Brewer; Associate Transportation Engineer Brandon Carver; City Clerk Sandy Paul

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

There were no comments from the public.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. **2010 Census**

Denise Lathrop, Planning Manager, led a discussion on the 2010 Census. A Power Point display was shown depicting the advantages of citizen participation in the upcoming Census. Assignment of Federal and State representation is a result of new census numbers. Funding apportionment for education, social services, hospitals, emergency services and public infrastructure is based upon census numbers. No private information will be gathered and the information gained as a result of participation in the 2010 Census will not be used against those responding. Forms not returned will generate a visit from a census taker to that address.

2. **Economic Development Status Briefing**

Marion Yoshino, Interim Economic Development Manager, provided a briefing and led a discussion on three projects that could successfully be undertaken in a three to six-month time frame. The first was that she was to serve as an ombudsman in facilitating permits and business license applications to the City; the second was to create an information packet with materials that would promote Des Moines to prospective business owners; and the third was to create a local discount program to promote Des Moines business to residents and encourage patronage at local business, thereby increasing City tax revenues.

3. **Sign Inventory**

Brandon Carver, Associate Transportation Engineer, briefed the Council and led a discussion on the City's inventory of road and street signs. He explained how each and every City sign was located and logged by a Global Positioning System (GPS). Each sign has been cleaned and maintained at least once since the inception of the Sign Inventory Program. There was no requirement for all signs to be in perfect condition at all times, but each sign must be part of a system included in a maintenance plan.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Regular Meeting March 11, 2010

ADJOURNMENT - Mayor Pro-Tem Dave Kaplan made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:13 p.m.; Councilmember Scott, seconded; the vote was all ayes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandy Paul
City Clerk