

## Mayor Report -July 2012

### **June 14-** MPO-TTAC-Transportation Technical Advisory Meeting- Highlights:

-Discussion of if a new point system was necessary for assisting in determining future funding. It was decided to keep the current system and not make it any more complicated.

### **June 27-** EMA meeting (Emergency Management) Highlights:

-A special meeting to award the bid for six warning sirens in Johnson County.

### **June 27<sup>th</sup>** MPO- Urbanized Area Policy Board Meeting- Highlights:

-A grant opportunity was discussed at this MPO meeting that the staff would apply for the cities interested in a Firefighters Grant about GPS traffic signal technology. This technology gives green lights at intersections for police and fire vehicles responding to incidents, as well as extended greens. The benefits of this technology include: expedite emergency response, eliminate collision liability where emergency responders currently run red lights, improve transit reliability, and enhance quality of life. Today, the cities in Iowa already using this technology include Des Moines, Dubuque, Waterloo, Davenport, Sioux City, Council Bluffs, and Ankeny. Others are in the midst of deploying such a system. It was described as 90/10. The local match being 10%. That would make University Heights 2 traffic lights cost \$2,167. I planned on putting it on the July 10<sup>th</sup> agenda for council consideration. However, several days after this MPO meeting, it was discovered that the due date was July 6 NOT July 15<sup>th</sup>. On July 3, I contacted as many council members individually as I could to see if they were interested in supporting this amount on July 10. However, on July 5<sup>th</sup> I was contacted again by the MPO staff and told that they just found out the local match was not going to be 10% but now 20%. That makes University Heights local match \$4,358. I then called John Yapp (MPO, Executive Director) to get further details as I was uncomfortable with the new dollar amount. John said there is no pressure to do this right away. There will be other opportunities for grants. The other cities are applying for some, but not all traffic lights at this time. I explained to John Yapp since this was an unbudgeted item, I don't feel comfortable going back to our council since the \$ amount has doubled. Council will need to discuss this in the future so it can be budgeted, get public input, etc. and then go from there. University Heights will not be participating in this grant this year.

**July 3** – Received an email from Mr. Simon Andrew, City of Iowa City re Animal Care and Adoption Agreements which I forwarded on to the city council. IC requests formal action due August 15. I would recommend discussion at the July and August council meetings with a decision at the August 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. I contacted Mr. Simon Andrew with Iowa City and he will not be able to come to our meeting, but I asked him to send me numbers specific to the University Heights Agreement.

**SPECIAL THANKS: Carol Ann Christiansen & Pat Yeggy for the wonderful UH GARDEN WALK- June 24!**