

MARSHALLTOWN

— I O W A —

April 22, 2019

To: Mayor, Members of the City Council and City Administrator

From: Michelle Spohnheimer, Housing & Community Development Director

Re: Iowa Great Places Designation

Policy Issue: The Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs is accepting applications for designation as an Iowa Great Places Community. The application is due May 1, 2019. Marshalltown has been a designated community since our grant award in 2014 for our projects involving Echo and Drills. In 2014, the Marshall County Arts & Culture Alliance acted as the lead applicant. It is important that the entity, which may apply for future funding, is also the applicant for the designation, which is why we are proposing the City submit the application this year. Every five years a community can reapply for the designation. Funding for projects are a separate application and generally operate under a three-year grant term.

Recommendation: City staff along with collaborating community organizations support the application for Iowa Great Places Designation. The designation is a marketing tool for tourism and development and provides us with the opportunity to apply for funding as it becomes available.

Background: In 2014, the City was designated an Iowa Great Places community and received \$350,000 in grant funds for public art on 13th Street and at the Roundhouse.

Budget Impact: n/a

Attachment: Resolution of support to apply.