CITY OF WEST DES MOINES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING COMMUNICATION

ITEM: Approval of Proclamation American Wind Week

DATE: August 5, 2019

FINANCIAL IMPACT: None

BACKGROUND:

Power Up Iowa is a statewide coalition of renewable energy supporters that promote the economic benefits of wind energy across the state of Iowa, and they have requested that the City of West Des Moines recognize American Wind Week, August 11-17, 2019.

To kick off American Wind Week, Governor Kim Reynolds will sign a statewide proclamation recognizing American Wind Week in conjunction with Power Up Iowa at the Iowa State Fair on Monday, August 12.

Wind energy is an important driver of economic growth and opportunity across the U.S., and Iowa has solidified itself as a national leader. Powering opportunity in Iowa, Iowans are employed in well-paying wind jobs including in manufacturing sectors, and now wind turbine service technician is the 2nd fastest growing occupation in the nation. Demand for wind energy surged to a record level in 2018 as more and more communities, companies, and colleges are investing in wind due to its affordability, reliability, and clean results for the environment. With a record amount of wind capacity under construction or in advanced stages of development across the country, this American success story will continue to grow and Iowa will be a model for its success.

OUTSTANDING ISSUES (if any): None

RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of Proclamation declaring August 11-17, 2019 as "American Wind Week".

Lead Staff Member: Ryan T. Jacobson, City Clerk RTJ

STAFF REVIEWS

Department Director	Ryan T. Jacobson, City Clerk
Appropriations/Finance	
Legal	
Agenda Acceptance	RTJ

PUBLICATION(S) (if applicable)

Published In	
Dates(s) Published	

SUBCOMMITTEE REVIEW (if applicable)

Committee			
Date Reviewed			
Recommendation	Yes	No	Split

Proclamation

American Wind Week

August 11-17, 2019

Whereas, Iowa ranks second in the nation for wind power capacity with nearly 9,000 megawatts installed, producing enough electricity to power nearly 2.1 million homes; and

Whereas, Iowa's wind production also ranks second in the nation at 33.7% of all in-state electricity production, with current and future projects estimated to bring wind's share of electricity production to over 40% by 2020; and

Whereas, Iowa is home to 114 wind farms and 10 wind-related manufacturing facilities; and

Whereas, wind powers opportunity in cities and communities all across Iowa, resulting in $58 million in state and local tax payments and $20-$30 million in land lease payments in 2018 alone; and

Whereas, wind farms in Iowa have attracted over $16.3 billion dollars in private investment to date, helping to spur critical investments in communities that fund manufacturing jobs, education programs, and local economic development projects; and

Whereas, the development of wind power now supports nearly 10,000 jobs across the state; and

Whereas, the advancements in wind power will greatly enhance our ability to attract new businesses and talent to our state and community, and wind energy will continue to grow as a major force in the U.S. economy.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Steven K. Gaer, Mayor of the City of West Des Moines, Iowa, do hereby proclaim August 11-17, 2019 to be American Wind Week, and encourage all citizens to learn more about wind's impact on our community and celebrate Iowa's leadership in wind energy production.

Signed this 5th day of August, 2019.

ATTEST:

Steven K. Gaer, Mayor

Ryan T. Jacobson, City Clerk