

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: REQUESTS FROM “HILLARY CLINTON FOR PRESIDENT”
CAMPAIGN

BACKGROUND:

The “Hillary Clinton for President” Campaign has asked to close Main Street on October 8, 2007, to allow Senator Clinton to deliver a speech on economic issues between 5:00 and 7:00 p.m. Event organizers will be erecting a stage on the east end of Main Street, with set-up beginning at around Noon. Approximately 1,000 people are expected to attend. There will be some impact to the Parking Fund due to the closure of the Main Street parking spaces from noon to 6:00 p.m. This cost will be approximately \$180 for the meters between Clark and Douglas Avenues from Noon to 6:00 p.m. It should be noted that this request does not include waiver of parking enforcement or charges for the entire Cultural District. Staff is recommending that the “Hillary Clinton for President” Campaign be charged for the \$180 lost revenue to the Parking Fund.

Since this request came in on September 28, staff has had no time to organize our normal Special Event meeting. Event organizers are still planning the event, unsure of all details, and, at this time, are only requesting to close Main Street. It is also unknown whether a band will be present; however, if so, event organizers have been informed that a Noise Permit must be received from the Police Department. Ames Police Department will be working with event organizers and the Secret Service to set up a security plan. It is staff's recommendation that the “Hillary Clinton for President” Campaign be charged for officers' time for security and traffic direction. It is also unknown whether electrical outlets will be needed; however, if so, it is staff's recommendation that event organizers be required to pay for electricity.

At the time of the preparation of this Council Action Form, it is not known whether the Main Street Cultural District supports this event. Organizers were asked to contact the Cultural District Office and talk with the staff there directly about the plans for the 8th. It is assumed that since the Cultural District was willing to support this request when it was first made back in September, that it will do so again now. However, staff has no confirmation of that at this time.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. The City Council can approve the requests from the “Hillary Clinton for President” Campaign to close Main Street, Clark to Douglas, on October 8, 2007, from Noon to

8 p.m. The Campaign will be charged for all costs associated with lost parking revenue, security and traffic direction provided by the Ames Police Department and any electricity used from City outlets.

2. The City Council can approve the requests from the “Hillary Clinton for President” Campaign to close Main Street on October 8, 2007, from Noon to 8 p.m., and waive all costs for lost parking revenue and police security and traffic direction.
3. The City Council can deny approval of the requests from the “Hillary Clinton for President” Campaign and the Main Street Cultural District for events planned to occur on October 8, 2007.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The staff and the City Council have, over the years, supported events that promoted activities in the Downtown and Campustown Districts. Since this request is being made on such short notice, it is unknown at this time whether it is supported by the Main Street Cultural District. **Staff is recommending that Campaign organizers pay for the lost parking revenue, electricity used (if any), security, and traffic direction.**

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative #1, thereby approving the request from the “Hillary Clinton for President” Campaign to close Main Street, Clark to Douglas, on October 8, 2007, from Noon to 8 p.m. It is also recommended that the Campaign be asked to pay for associated costs and lost revenue as outlined above.