

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: REQUEST FROM MSCD TO CLOSE PARKING SPACES ON MAIN STREET FOR CNN CAMPAIGN COVERAGE VEHICLE PARKING

BACKGROUND:

The Main Street Cultural District (MSCD) has requested to close five parking spaces on the 300 block of Main Street on Friday October 9th and Saturday October 10th, to facilitate the parking of CNN's campaign coverage RV. The public will be invited to tour the vehicle and learn about CNN's coverage of the presidential election. Visitors will be encouraged to share their stories and photos on Facebook, which is also partnering to sponsor the event.

The event will take place during the Downtown Farmer's Market, and it has the support of the market manager. The loss of revenue to the parking fund for the closure of these five spaces for two days is \$9. MSCD has requested a waiver of the fees for this event.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the request to close five parking spaces in the 300 block of Main Street on October 9-10, and approve the request to waive parking meter fees.
2. Approve the request to close five parking spaces in the 300 block of Main Street on October 9-10, but require reimbursement for the lost parking meter revenue.
3. Do not approve the event.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

This event provides an opportunity for the Ames community to explore how national political campaign news coverage is produced. It is also an opportunity to showcase Ames to a national audience.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, thereby approving the request to close five parking spaces in the 300 block of Main Street on October 9-10, and approve the request to waive parking meter fees.