ITEM # 25 & 26 DATE: 04-25-17

### **COUNCIL ACTION FORM**

SUBJECT: REQUESTS FOR AMES GRAND PRIX

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The Ames Velo organization has proposed hosting the Ames Grand Prix bicycle races on Saturday, June 10<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup>. A similar event has been held by this organization in State Center for the past eight years. The event consists of timed races of 10 to 50 riders per race along a short circuit. It is anticipated that riders will reach speeds of up to 35 miles per hour on the course.

#### **Main Street Criterium**

On Saturday, June 10<sup>th</sup>, the races will take place downtown from 3:00 p.m. until approximately 8:00 p.m. To facilitate this event, organizers have requested the following from 2:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. the day of the event:

- Closure of Main Street from Clark Avenue to Douglas Avenue, Douglas Avenue from Main Street to Sixth Street, Sixth Street from Douglas Avenue to Burnett Avenue, Burnett Avenue from Sixth Street to Fifth Street, Fifth Street from Burnett Avenue to Clark Avenue, and Clark Avenue from Fifth Street to Main Street
- Closure of 187 metered parking spaces along the race route and suspension of parking enforcement (\$149.60 loss to the Parking Fund)
- Blanket Temporary Obstruction Permit for the closed area

A finish line will be established in the 300 block of Main Street, and organizers will use a speaker system to announce results. A race command post will be set up on Douglas Avenue. The speed of racers requires them to use the full width of the street when entering and exiting turns. However, organizers will attempt to close intersections in a way that allows vehicle traffic to turn onto adjacent streets to get past the race area.

CyRide will detour from Sixth Street to avoid the closed streets. Organizers have contacted the Main Street Cultural District (MSCD) regarding this event, and MSCD has provided a letter of support.

#### **Research Park Circuit Race**

The following day, Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, races will be held from 9:00 a.m. to approximately 5:00 p.m. To facilitate this event, organizers have requested closure of the following streets from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. the day of the event: Airport Road from University Boulevard to North Loop Drive, North Loop Drive, South Loop Drive, University

Boulevard from Airport Road to Collaboration Place, and Collaboration Place. Additionally, a blanket Temporary Obstruction Permit is requested for the closed area.

Staff from the ISU Research Park has expressed support for the race in this area.

## **ISSUES FOR BOTH RACES:**

In this style of race, the riders tend to group together. Therefore, organizers will manage the street closures in a way that allows for motorists and pedestrians to cross into the center of the race area when the route is clear. The organizers have staff that is experienced in managing street closures for bicycle races.

For the ISU Research Park race, organizers will place signage well in advance of the closures warning drivers of the potential for delay, and signs warning drivers to slow as they approach the point where they will wait to be allowed through the race course. This route is longer, and so should allow more time for motorists to be let through the closures before the pack of riders approaches again.

Public Works will provide barricades and will place electronic message board signs in each area prior to the race announcing the closures (if signs are available at that time). Because of the high speeds of riders at these events and the potential for serious harm if a rider encounters a roadway defect, Public Works will modify its street-sweeping schedule to clear street debris from these routes the day prior to the race. Additionally, City staff has requested that organizers inspect the pavement along the routes in the days prior to the event and contact staff to patch any pavement defects that could cause injury to a racer. A majority of both routes takes place on newer pavement, so staff anticipates less likelihood of a dangerous defect in these areas.

Organizers will obtain liability insurance for this event through USA Cycling once it is approved by the City Council. The insurance limits proposed exceed the City's minimum requirements for special events. Additionally, City staff has asked that the participants' hold harmless waivers also include language holding the City harmless.

At the Special Event meeting for this event in late March, City staff requested that organizers work to notify residents and businesses in the affected areas prior to the event being approved by City Council, and that those individuals be further notified of when the City Council discussion will be held. Organizers indicated they would notify affected businesses and would ensure that conversations were specifically held with the Ames Public Library, Adams Funeral Home, Wessex, and CPMI Events Center, because these properties might have special events or issues to accommodate. Staff has also requested that the organizers not advertise the events to the general public until approval has been obtained from the City Council.

#### **ALTERNATIVES:**

- 1. Approve the requests for the Ames Grand Prix on June 10-11, as outlined above, contingent upon 1) receipt of a certificate of liability insurance, 2) reimbursement for lost parking revenue and 3) receipt of hold harmless waivers from each participant.
- 2. Direct staff to work with organizers to find an alternative location for this event.
- 3. Deny the requests.

## **MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

This event is a unique opportunity to bring bicycle racing to Ames. The event proposed has the support of the Main Street Cultural District and the ISU Research Park. Organizers have experience hosting similar bicycle racing events and have taken precautions in their planning to ensure a safe, enjoyable event for the community. They have contacted affected businesses and residents prior to the City Council discussion to provide notice of their plans and this meeting.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative #1, thereby approving the requests for the Ames Grand Prix on June 10-11, as outlined above, contingent upon 1) receipt of a certificate of liability insurance, 2) reimbursement for lost parking revenue and 3) receipt of hold harmless waivers from each participant.



February 22, 2017

Mayor and City Council City of Ames 515 Clark Ave Ames, IA 50010

Dear Mayor Ann Campbell and City Council,

The Ames Main Street Cultural District supports the closure of several streets in the Main Street Cultural District for the first ever Velo bike race in downtown Ames on the evening of Saturday, June 10 and all day on Sunday, June 11. Events of this nature help MSCD achieve its vision of making downtown Ames the primary destination of Central lowa by creating an economically vibrant district with unique living, dining, and entertainment experience.

Sincerely,

Paul Livingston

2017 MSCD Board President

# **SUMMARY OF EVENT**

#### DESCRIPTION

Event Name Ames Grand Prix

Description

The Ames Grand Prix consists of 2 bicycle races being held on June 10th and 11th. 2017.

The first race is the "Main Street Criterium", held in downtown Ames. This race will be a looping course that will be .7 to 1 mile in length, with racers making multiple laps per race. This race has been reviewed and approved by the Main Street Cultural District.

The second race, on Sunday, is the "Research Park Circuit Race", held in the Research Park area. This race will be looping around a 2.7 mile course, with racers making multiple laps per race. This race has been reviewed and is endorsed by Alison Doyle from ISU Research Park.

Each race will held under USA Cycling Permit and insured. Each of the 2 days will consist of 10-12 races at varying length and skill level. Each race will see field sizes from 10-50 racers. Even though the event will require temporary road closures, our experience is that we can marshal through light traffic after groups of racers pass by and in between races. We have held our usual version of this weekend for the past 8 years in State Center and look forward to bringing this tradition in to Ames for 2017.

Participants and their families are expected to be staying over night in Ames and taking advantage of the many amenities.

Event Category	<ul><li>✓ Athletic/Recreation</li><li>☐ Exhibits/Misc.</li><li>☐ Festival/Celebration</li><li>☐ Parade/Procession/Management</li></ul>	Other (pleas	door Market se explain)	
Anticipated Attendance	Total 300	Per Day <u>300</u>		
DATE/TIME				
Setup Event Starts Event Ends Teardown Complete	Date 6/10/17 Date 6/10/17 Date 6/10/17 Date 6/10/17	Time 1:00 pm Time 3:30 pm Time 9:30 pm Time 10:30 pm	Day of Week	Sat Sat
Rain Date, if appl Rain Location, if				

Rev 9/14

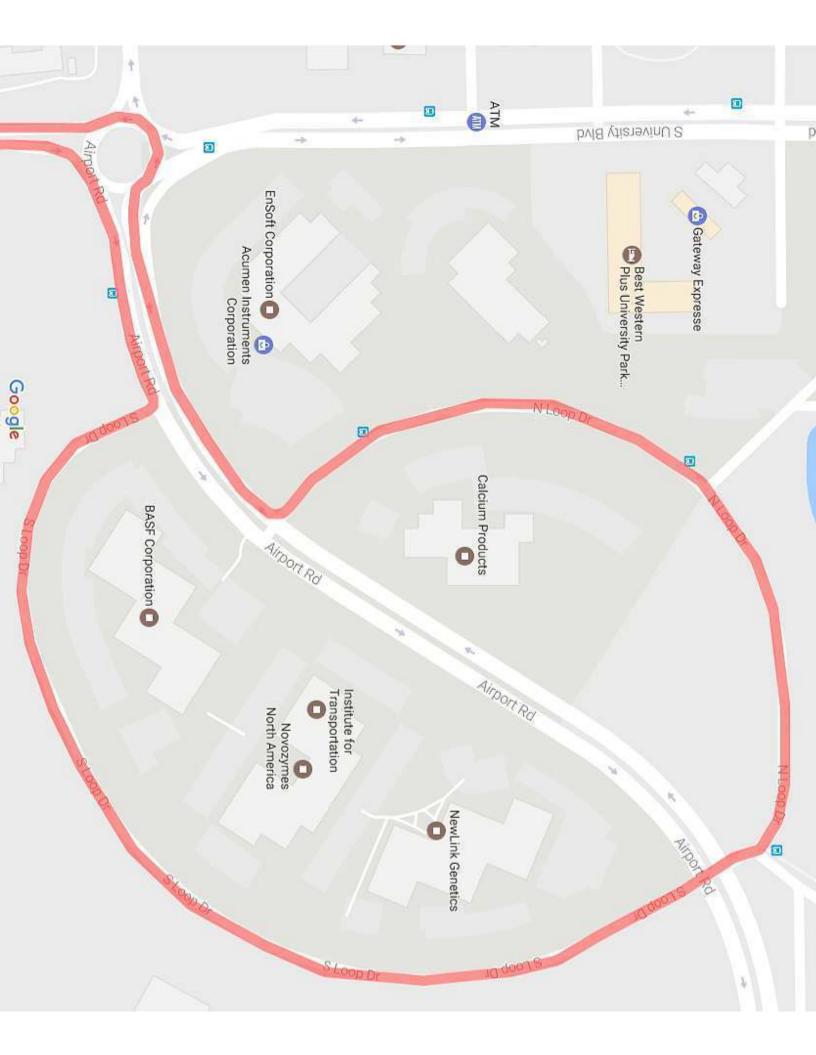
# **LOCATION**

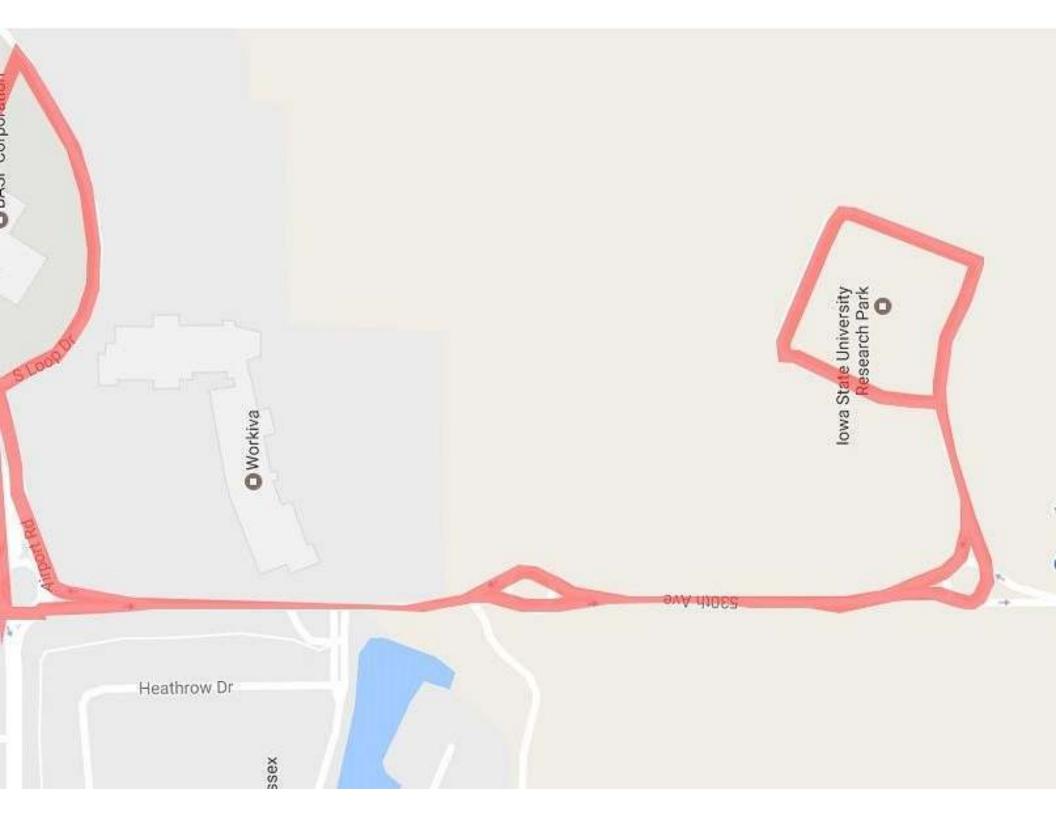
Region (Select o	ne d	r more)	Car	in Street Cultural Dismpustown District va State University Fy Parks her (please explain)	Property		
A letter of	supp	ort will be re	equired fro			parks, or on ISU property require prior approvals. town or from MSCD if the event occurs in Downtow	n.
Campusto	wn -	Campustow	n Action	strict: (515) 233-3472 Association: (515) 450 orization Committee: (5		events@amesdowntown.org director@amescampustown.com eventauthorization@iastate.edu	
CONT	r' <b>AC</b>	CTS					
Hos	t Or	ganization		Ames Velo			
Ми	ıst be <u>ı</u>	ontact (Rec present during e	event	Name: Jason Qui Address: 1412 Bu Telephone: (515) Cell phone: (515) Email: jmq303@g	urnett Ave  509-9971  509-9971  Must b  gmail.com	nit Emergency Contact List, including	
names a	nd n	umbers of	all coord	dinators, volunteers	s, and location a	assigned to each.	
Yes I	No						
<b>√</b>		Is this an annual event? How many years have you been holding this event?8					
<b>√</b>		Is this event open to the public?					
	✓	ls your eve	nt being l	held in conjunction w	rith another even	nt (e.g. Farmers' Market, 4th of July, etc.)?	
		If yes, plea	se list				

2

Rev 9/14









April 11, 2017

## To Whom It May Concern:

Iowa State University Research Park fully supports the use of University Boulevard, Airport Road, South and North Loop Drives and Collaboration Place for the Ames Velo Race and subsequent race series to be held at ISURP. We welcome the opportunity to showcase what we are building at ISURP, and also to give our tenant community another chance to interact with one another and even participate in this great event.

Alison Doyle

ISU Research Park

AhsmMm

Marketing + Community Engagement