

**COUNCIL ACTION FORM**

**SUBJECT: REQUESTS FROM AMES VELO FOR AMES GRAND PRIX**

**BACKGROUND:**

The Ames Velo organization has proposed hosting its second Annual Ames Grand Prix bicycle races on Saturday, June 16<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, June 17<sup>th</sup>. 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. Last year, an estimated 160 different individuals participated over the two days of racing.

**MAIN STREET CRITERIUM EVENT:**

On Saturday, June 16<sup>th</sup>, the races will take place downtown from 4:00 p.m. until approximately 11:00 p.m. To facilitate this event, organizers have requested the following:

- 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 Douglas Avenue to Clark Avenue, Kellogg Avenue from Main Street to Sixth Street, and Clark Avenue from Fifth Street to Main Street from 4:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.
- Closure of 187 metered parking spaces from 2:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. along the race route and suspension of parking enforcement. City staff estimates that this will result in a loss of \$130.90 to the Parking Fund
- Blanket Temporary Obstruction Permit for the closed area
- Blanket Vending License for the closed area and waiver of fee (\$50)

A finish line will be established in the 300 block of Main Street, and organizers will use a speaker system to announce race 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 17<sup>th</sup>, races will be held from 8:00 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, blanket Vending License and waiver of fee (\$50) are also requested.

A letter of support from the ISU Research Park has been obtained for this event.

### **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.

Organizers will obtain liability insurance through USA Cycling once the event 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.

### **ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Approve the requests for the Ames Grand Prix on June 16-17 including waiver of blanket Vending License fees (\$100), as outlined above, contingent upon receipt of a certificate of liability insurance and reimbursement for lost parking revenue.
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 these events in the past and have taken precautions in their planning to ensure a safe, enjoyable event for the community.

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 16-17 including waiver of blanket Vending License fees (\$100), as outlined above, contingent upon receipt of a certificate of liability insurance and reimbursement for lost parking revenue.



March 14, 2018

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

Dear Mayor John Haila and City Council,

The Ames Main Street Cultural District supports the closure of several streets in the Main Street Cultural District for the second annual Velo Bike Race in downtown Ames after 4pm on Saturday, June 16. Events of this nature help the MSCD achieve its vision of making downtown Ames the primary destination of Central Iowa by creating an economically vibrant district with unique living, dining, and entertainment experiences.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Eric Abrams".

Eric Abrams  
2018 MSCD Board President

March 8, 2018

Ames City Council  
515 Clark Avenue  
PO Box 811  
Ames, IA 50010

Dear Ames City Council:

As the Marketing Director for the Iowa State University Research Park, one of the strategic goals I have put in place is that of community engagement. We try to connect our tenants with each other and with individuals in the city, state, and country. The Park promotes interaction and activities that will build positive relationships and opportunities for collaboration.

I am writing to share my support of the Ames Grand Prix that Ames Velo brings to the community in June. It comes to downtown Ames and the ISU Research Park for two stops, one on Saturday and one on Sunday. This race is the fourth and final component of the Iowa Memorial Cup and brings in hundreds of bike racers and their families to the community. Ames Velo is excited to hold this annual event and showcase the city of Ames. They believe it has the opportunity to become a keystone event in the area for years to come, and so do I.

Community engagement is an important goal of the ISU Research Park, and with this event, our tenants and their staff will have the chance to engage in a high energy activity that involves the whole community. We will help Ames Velo by bringing in additional amenities and sponsors to make this event a success. Additionally, the race runs through the Park, showcasing our space to the community and increasing the awareness of who we are and what we do. We are excited about the opportunity to work in collaboration with Ames Velo, and are glad to support it for the second year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alison Doyle", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Alison Doyle

April 3, 2018

Scott T. Wall  
Ames Velo Race Director  
1306 Douglas Ave.  
Ames, IA 50010

Ames City Council  
c/o Ames City Clerk  
City Hall  
515 Clark Ave.  
Ames, IA 50010


Dear Ames City Council,

I am the Race Director for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Ames Grand Prix bicycle races in downtown Ames and at the ISU Research Park on June 16 and 17 promoted by the Ames Velo bicycle racing team. This year we plan to invite food vendors to the event and, at a pre-event meeting with city staff on March 20, we learned there is a \$50/day fee and that we can request a waiver for that fee.

Along with bringing bicycle racing to Ames, one of Ames Velo's goals is to give back to the community. Last year the Ames Grand Prix donated profits from the races to The TIM Foundation, a scholarship for Ames 8<sup>th</sup> Grade students to assist them in pursuing activities outside the normal curriculum (athletics, music, etc) during their high school careers. The Ames Grand Prix will be a fundraiser for The TIM Foundation again in 2018.

We request that the Ames City Council grant a blanket vending license to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Ames Grand Prix on June 16 and 17 and that they waive the \$50/day vendor fees. Any money we can save on event expenses goes to a good cause benefiting local students. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Scott T. Wall



CITY OF

Ames

# SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION

## SUMMARY OF EVENT

### DESCRIPTION

**Event Name** 2nd Annual Ames Grand Prix

#### Description

A two-day series of bicycle races in downtown Ames and at the ISU Research Park. The inaugural races were held on June 10 and 11, 2017. This year the Ames Main Street Cultural District Criterium will be Saturday late afternoon and evening, June 16, 2018 in downtown Ames and the ISU Research Park Circuit Race will be held Sunday morning and afternoon, June 17, 2018 on roads in the research park.

The June 16 criterium requires that the streets used for the race course be completely closed to parking and vehicle traffic. Vehicle and pedestrians may still cross the course to access downtown businesses and park on interior streets. The June 17 circuit race will require a partial shutdown of the streets used for the race course. Because Sunday's course is longer than Saturday's vehicles will be allowed access across or along the course when the groups of racers are on a different part of the course.

Downtown streets will be closed on Saturday, June 16 from 4:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. ISU Research Park roads will be closed on Sunday, June 17 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. though this will not be a complete closure. Event start information below is for Saturday and end information is for Sunday. Saturday's races will end at 11:00 p.m. and the streets will be re-opened immediately. Teardown should be completed by mid-night. For Sunday set-up will begin at 7:00 a.m. and racing will commence at 9:00 a.m. Roads will be closed Sunday at 8:00 a.m. re-opened immediately following the last race (approx. 5:00 p.m.). Bicycle races are run rain or shine unless conditions are patently dangerous (lightning, hail, tornadoes). Races can be postponed and/or shortened in case of bad weather but there is no alternative date for the event.

- Event Category**
- Athletic/Recreation
  - Exhibits/Misc.
  - Festival/Celebration
  - Parade/Procession/March
  - Concert/Performance
  - Farmer/Outdoor Market
  - Other (please explain)

**Anticipated Attendance**

Total  Per Day

### DATE/TIME

<b>Setup</b>	Date <input type="text" value="06/16/2018"/>	Time <input type="text" value="2:30 p.m."/>	Day of Week <input type="text" value="Saturday"/>
<b>Event Starts</b>	Date <input type="text" value="06/16/2018"/>	Time <input type="text" value="5:15 p.m."/>	Day of Week <input type="text" value="Saturday"/>
<b>Event Ends</b>	Date <input type="text" value="06/17/2018"/>	Time <input type="text" value="5:00 p.m."/>	Day of Week <input type="text" value="Sunday"/>
<b>Teardown Complete</b>	Date <input type="text" value="06/17/2018"/>	Time <input type="text" value="6:00 p.m."/>	Day of Week <input type="text" value="Sunday"/>

**Rain Date, if applicable**

**Rain Location, if applicable**



## LOCATION

### Region

(Select one or more)

- Main Street Cultural District (Downtown)
- Campustown District
- Iowa State University Property
- City Parks
- Other (please explain)

**Please note** that events occurring in the Downtown, Campustown, in City parks, or on ISU property require prior approvals. A letter of support will be required from CAA if the event occurs in Campustown or from MSCD if the event occurs in Downtown. Please contact the appropriate office well in advance:

Downtown - Main Street Cultural District: (515) 233-3472

Campustown - Campustown Action Association: (515) 450-8771

Iowa State University - Events Authorization Committee: (515) 294-1437

events@amesdowntown.org

director@amescampustown.com

eventauthorization@iastate.edu

## CONTACTS

### Host Organization

### Local Contact (Required)

#### Name

#### Address

#### Telephone

#### Cell Phone

#### Email

**At least ten business days prior to the event, Organizer must submit Emergency Contact List, including names and numbers of all coordinators, volunteers, and location assigned to each.**

### Yes No

Is this an annual event? How many years have you been holding this event? \_

Is this event open to the public?

Is your event being held in conjunction with another event (e.g. *Farmers' Market, 4th of July*, etc.)?

If yes, please list

2018 will be the second year for this event. It is open to anyone holding a bicycle racing license from USA Cycling, the governing body for bicycle races in the United States. Anyone wishing to compete can purchase a one-day racing license during the event.