

ITEM # 11a
DATE: 02/26/19

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: POLAR BEAR PLUNGE REQUESTS

BACKGROUND:

The Greek Week Committee has submitted plans to host its Polar Bear Plunge beginning at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, April 5. During the event, members of the Iowa State Greek Community will plunge into an above-ground pool in support of the Special Olympics of Iowa. The Committee is proposing the Plunge take place north of the Greek Triangle along Sunset Drive. To facilitate the event, a portion of Sunset Drive and the eastern portion of Pearson Avenue along the Greek Triangle need to be closed and parking regulations suspended from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. on April 5. A temporary obstruction permit is also requested for the closed area.

Organizers will arrange to rent a hydrant meter from the Water Department to minimize the time needed to fill the pool. At the conclusion of the event, the water will be drained into the adjacent storm sewer. Organizers have informed staff that certified lifeguards with first aid training will be present.

The organizers will notify the affected residents about the closures and their event by canvassing the area and by placing signs in the affected area prior to the event. No Parking signs will be placed in the affected area no later than 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 4.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the requests as indicated above for Polar Bear plunge on Friday, April 5.
2. Deny the requests.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The Polar Bear Plunge is a student-run event at Iowa State that highlights the fraternities and sororities and their contributions to the community. Funds raised from the event will go towards Special Olympics Iowa.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative #1, thereby approving the requests as indicated above for Polar Bear plunge on Friday, April 5.

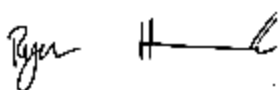
Greetings Ames City Council,

My name is Ryan Hunwardsen and I am the Greek Week Central 2019 Logistics Director. This letter is to request for street closures on Sunset Drive for our annual Greek Week Polar Bear Plunge. We will be holding our annual Greek Week Polar Bear Plunge in the South Campus residential community on Friday, April 5th from 4:00pm till 8:00pm and ask for your consideration in closing down the affected streets.

Friday, April 5th will be the annual Greek Week Polar Bear Plunge starting at 6:00 PM. We are seeking your permission to erect barricades to and close a section of Sunset Drive and Pearson Avenue starting Thursday, April 4th at 6:00 am and ending at 12:00 am of Saturday, April 6th. This will allow us enough time to set up our pool, host the event, and then tear down the pool. Additionally, we would like to request that parking regulations be suspended from 10:00 am to 11:00 pm on Friday, April 5. We will be erecting and getting our plunge pool certified on Thursday in time for Friday's activities. The affected portion of road is the section of Sunset Drive in front of the Greek Triangle City Park and the eastern section of Pearson surrounding Greek Triangle City Park. The affected sections can be seen on the included map on the back of this letter.

We ask that the council grant us permission for the above road closures in order for us to host our annual Polar Bear Plunge in the heart of our Sorority and Fraternity Community. If you have any questions, concerns, or issues, I would ask that you please contact myself or one of the Executive Directors for Greek Week; we have listed our information below. Thank you for your consideration!

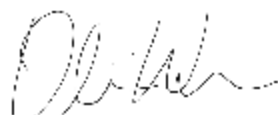
Best Regards,



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