

ITEM #   21  

DATE: 01-14-20

### **COUNCIL ACTION FORM**

**SUBJECT:**     **REQUEST TO WAIVE ENFORCEMENT OF PROHIBITION OF  
MOTORIZED VEHICLES IN ADA HAYDEN HERITAGE PARK FOR  
THE AMES TRIATHLON, JUNE 28, 2020.**

#### **BACKGROUND:**

In June 2019, Iowa Multisport (IM) hosted the first-ever Ames Triathlon at Ada Hayden Heritage Park. The event consisted of a 500M swim in the north lake, a 12-mile bike ride that started in the park and traveled through north Ames, northwestern portions of Story County and finished in the park, and a 5K run that used the hard surface path in the park. IM is planning on hosting the second annual Ames Triathlon event on June 28, 2020. In reviewing last year's event with IM one of the concerns they had was the inability to transport volunteers and participants for emergencies throughout the park in a safe and quick manner. **For this year's race, IM is requesting the use of golf carts to transport volunteers, assist participants for any emergencies along the run route, and to haul or transport water station supplies.**

Since 2016, the Friends of Ada Hayden Heritage Park have utilized golf carts to conduct educational tours of the park for individuals who would otherwise be unable to tour the park on a bike or on foot. The request has been approved by Council each of the last three years. IM is required to provide a Certificate of Liability Insurance for the triathlon event and staff will require that the golf carts be covered under IM's insurance.

The Parks and Recreation Commission reviewed this request at its November 21 meeting and recommended that City Council grant this waiver for the Ames Triathlon on Sunday, June 28, 2020.

Additionally, at the November Parks and Recreation Commission meeting, IM presented a check to the City for \$1,000 which was collected through participant donations.

#### **ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Waive enforcement of Section 19.9 of Municipal Code from 4:00 AM to 1:00 PM on Sunday, June 28, to allow Iowa Multisport to utilize two golf carts for the Ames Triathlon at Ada Hayden Heritage Park.
2. Deny IM's request and do not allow the use of motorized golf carts at the park
3. Refer back to staff.

**CITY MANAGER’S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

The first Ames Triathlon was a successful event that brought 300 participants from around Ames and the Midwest to Ada Hayden Heritage Park. Staff met with representatives from IM multiple times leading up to the event as well as observed all of the activities that took place at the park. Staff reviewed participant feedback and feels IM was successful in ensuring participant safety. This event was organized very well and IM is looking forward to improving upon last year’s event. Having the ability to utilize golf carts will assist in transporting volunteers as well as participants in emergency situations.

Therefore, it is the City Manager’s recommendation to approve Alternative #1 as stated above.