

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: REQUESTS FROM AMES VELO FOR AMES GRAND PRIX

BACKGROUND:

The Ames Velo organization has proposed hosting its fifth annual Ames Grand Prix bicycle races on Saturday, August 27th and Sunday, August 28th. 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. An estimated 300 individuals are anticipated to attend the two days of racing.

MAIN STREET CRITERIUM EVENT:

On Saturday, August 27th, the races will take place downtown from 3:45 p.m. until approximately 11:00 p.m. This year, the Main Street Criterium will serve as the 2022 Iowa State Criterium Championships. To facilitate this event, organizers have requested the following:

- Closure of Main Street between Clark and Douglas Avenues, Douglas Avenue between Main and 6th Streets, 6th Street between Douglas and Burnett Avenues, Burnett Avenue between 6th and 5th Streets, 5th Street between Burnett and Clark Avenues and Clark Avenue between 5th and Main Streets from 3:45 p.m. to 11:15 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 \$163.25 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 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. 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.

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

RESEARCH PARK CIRCUIT RACE:

The following day, Sunday, August 28th, races will be held from 8:00 a.m. to approximately 5:00 p.m. in the ISU Research Park. Riders will begin at Collaboration Place in front of the Research Park Core Building, ride north on University Boulevard, east on Airport Road, south on S. Riverside Drive, and west on Collaboration Place to complete the loop.

To facilitate this event, organizers have requested closure of the following from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. the day of the event:

- Collaboration Place between South Riverside Drive and University Boulevard
- Plaza Loop
- University Boulevard from Collaboration Place to Airport Road (northbound lane only; southbound lane to remain open to traffic)
- Airport Road from University Boulevard to S. Riverside Drive (one eastbound lane only; the road will remain open to both east- and westbound traffic)
- South Riverside Drive (southbound lane only; northbound lane to remain open to traffic)

The lanes dedicated to riders will be delineated with traffic cones. During the race, vehicle traffic will be able to proceed through the University/Airport roundabout; however, because there is only one traffic lane in the southeastern quarter of the roundabout, vehicle traffic will be temporarily stopped from entering the roundabout when the cyclist's approach that intersection. Advanced warning signs will be used to alert drivers and volunteers will be provided with handheld signs to stop traffic at the roundabout when necessary.

For the Research Park Circuit, organizers are requesting a blanket Temporary Obstruction Permit, a blanket Vending License, and waiver of the Vending License fee (\$50). A letter of support from the ISU Research Park has been obtained for this event.

ISSUES FOR BOTH RACES:

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 August 27-28 including, waiver of blanket Vending License fee 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 alternative locations for these events.
3. Deny the requests.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

This event is a unique opportunity to bring bicycle racing to Ames. The event proposed has the support of Ames Main Street 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, as described above.

July 7, 2022

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

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

Dear Ames City Council,

I am the Race Director for the 5th Annual Ames Grand Prix bicycle races to be held in downtown Ames and at the ISU Research Park on August 27 and 28, 2022, promoted by the Ames Velo bicycle racing team. As there are few food options available at the ISU Research Park we plan to invite 1-2 food vendors to the event on the 28th. We are requesting that the \$50/day food vendor fee be waived as there are few nearby places to eat and the vendor(s) will be on private property (Ames Fitness).

The Ames Grand Prix requires the closure of city streets for the safety of the competitors. On Saturday, August 27, 2022 we are requesting permission to completely close to traffic the following streets in downtown Ames: Main Street between Clark and Douglas Avenues, Douglas Avenue between Main and 6th Streets, 6th Street between Douglas and Burnett Avenues, Burnett Avenue between 6th and 5th Streets, 5th Street between Burnett and Clark Avenues, and Clark Avenue between 5th and Main Streets. The closure will also be in effect for all intersections along the streets named above and will be in place from 3:45 p.m. until 11:15 p.m.

On Sunday, August 28 we are requesting the use of the following streets: Collaboration Place between South Riverside Drive and University Boulevard, University Boulevard between Collaboration Place and Airport Road, Airport Road between University Boulevard and South Riverside Road, and South Riverside Road between Airport Road and Collaboration Place. We request that Collaboration Place and the far south lane (eastbound) of Airport Road be completely closed to vehicle traffic and Plaza Loop will need to be closed as well because it only has access from Collaboration Place. The eastbound lanes of Airport Road will be separated by traffic cones between the two lanes. Aside from that, University Boulevard, Airport Road, and South Riverside Drive will remain open to traffic. Sunday's road closures will be in effect from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Scott T. Wall



June 22, 2022

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

Dear Mayor Haila and Members of the Ames City Council,

Ames Main Street is proud to offer its support for the Ames VELO Grand Prix on August 27, 2022. We also endorse the closure of the streets to make this event happen, including Main Street from Clark to Douglas, Douglas from Main Street to 6th Street, 5th Street from Burnett to Clark, and Clark from 5th Street to Main Street, in addition to any supplemental streets to keep all bike riders and spectators safe.

Events of this nature help Downtown Ames achieve its vision of making it the primary destination of Central Iowa by creating an economically vibrant district with unique living, dining, and entertainment experiences.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sarah Dvorsky', with a large, stylized loop at the end.

Sarah Dvorsky
Executive Director
Ames Main Street



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Research PARK

July 6, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

Iowa State University Research Park fully supports the use of University Boulevard, Airport Road, Riverside Road, South and North Loop Drives and Collaboration Place for the Ames Velo Grand Prix race series to be held at ISU Research Park and on Main Street.

In addition, we continue to work closely with our tenant partners including Ames Fitness, McFarland Clinic and Lily Pad to bring them sponsorship and other opportunities related to the event and they are supportive.

We are supportive of both the August 27/28, 2022 dates.

We welcome the opportunity to showcase what we are building at ISURP, to give our tenant community another chance to interact with one another, and in some cases, to participate in this great event. Our tenants continue to indicate that wellness and fitness and amenities exactly like this race are what we need to continue to build to make ISURP a thriving community for innovators.

Ames Velo have been amazing stewards to both our community and the greater cycling community and should be commended for the professional and top-notch way they run their organization. We are proud supporters of their work and hope to see this partnership continue for years to come. Please feel free to reach out if you have additional questions or concerns (adoyle@iastate.edu/515.296.4204)

Kind Regards,

Alison Doyle
Iowa State University Research Park
Chief Relationship Officer



McFarland Clinic

June 23, 2022

Jason,

We are pleased to once again support the Ames Grand Prix (AGP) event at the Research Park on Sunday, August 28, 2022. We commend Ames Velo efforts to continue to promote health and fitness in our community through such an organized event.

Ames Velo and AGP participants are welcome to utilize the parking lot of our McFarland Clinic South Ames facility on August 28. As in the past, we ask that the parking lot be in the same condition you found it in before the event. There will be no access to our building during the event.

Best wishes for another great event.

Sincerely,

Shelley Goecke
Marketing & Public Relations Director



515-239-4400
515-239-4498 fax



1215 Duff Avenue
Ames, Iowa 50010



McFarlandClinic.com
MyChart.McFarlandClinic.com

Extraordinary Care, Every Day



www.amesfitness.com

Ames City Council
515 Clark Ave
Ames, IA 50010

Dear City Council Members,

I am writing today to support the 2022 Ames Grand Prix event proposed for Sunday, August 28 in the Ames Research Park. As the South Ames Fitness Center manager, I think the event would draw a lot of attention to our area and be very beneficial for all the businesses on this side of town.

Jason Quinn, the Grand Prix organizer, is very immersed within the bicycling community and we believe will put on a successful event that has the potential of drawing in both local and non-local participants. Ames Fitness Center will be happy to provide the parking lot space that is required for the event. We will also be more than willing to market the event among our members.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

Brett Halverson
Membership Manager
Ames Fitness Center South

3 Locations. 1 Membership. 0 Excuses.



North
2622 Stange Rd, Suite 101
Ames, IA 50010
515-292-4741

South
3600 University Blvd
Ames, IA 50010
515-232-1911

West
4700 Mortensen
Ames, IA 50014
515-232-1911