

ITEM # 209-d
DATE: 9/09/08

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: OCTAGON ART FESTIVAL REQUESTS

BACKGROUND:

The Octagon Center for the Arts plans to host an art festival in the Ames Main Street Cultural District (MSCD) on Sunday, September 28, 2008. The event is scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m. and conclude at 5:00 p.m. Booths selling art works, crafts, and food items will be in operation that day. In addition, there will be entertainment on the sidewalks in Tom Evans Plaza and in Cynthia Duff Plaza.

To facilitate this event, the following items are requested:

1. Closure of the following streets, from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.:
 - a. Main Street, east of Clark (not blocking Wells Fargo driveway) to just west of Duff Avenue (allowing traffic to access parking lot behind businesses)
 - b. Burnett Avenue, south of the alley to Main Street
 - c. Douglas Avenue, 5th Street to Main Street
 - d. Kellogg Avenue, 5th Street to Main Street
2. Approval of a Blanket Vending License for the duration of the event
3. Approval of a Blanket Temporary Obstruction Permit to include the sidewalks adjacent to the closed streets
4. Waiver of the costs for electricity during the event

Insurance coverage for the event has been provided by The Octagon Center for the Arts. Notification signs will be placed on parking meters on Saturday evening after 6:00 p.m. Public Works will provide the necessary barricades for the street closures. The Ames Main Street Cultural District has been informed of the Art Festival and is in support of it.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. The City Council can approve the requests from The Octagon Center for the Arts for the Art Festival on September 28, 2008:
 - a. Closure of the following streets, from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.:
 1. Main Street, east of Clark (not blocking Wells Fargo driveway) to just west of Duff Avenue (allowing traffic to access parking lot behind businesses)
 2. Burnett Avenue, south of the alley to Main Street

3. Douglas Avenue, 5th Street to Main Street
4. Kellogg Avenue, 5th Street to Main Street

- b. Blanket Vending License for the duration of the event
- c. Blanket Temporary Obstruction Permit to include the sidewalks adjacent to the closed streets
- d. Waiver of the costs for electricity during the event

2. The City Council can deny this request.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

This is the 38th year that the Octagon has held the Art Festival. There will be more than a hundred artists on hand with unique, hand-crafted artwork for sale, two stages with live entertainment, and local food vendors. No admission is charged, and Festival organizers expect more than 8,000 people to attend.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative #1, thereby approving the requests from The Octagon Center for the Arts for the Art Festival on September 28, 2008.