

**COUNCIL ACTION FORM**

**SUBJECT: REQUESTS FOR 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY ACTIVITIES**

**BACKGROUND:**

The City Council Community Pancake Breakfast will be held again this year in front of City Hall on July 4<sup>th</sup>. Staff is requesting that Clark Avenue, from Fifth Street to Sixth Street, be closed from 6:00 p.m. on July 3 (for set-up) until the conclusion of the parade on July 4 to provide a seating area for people attending the breakfast. The breakfast will start at 8:30 a.m. and conclude at about 10:30 a.m., so that everyone can attend the parade, which is scheduled to start at 11:00 a.m.

The 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade Committee and Main Street Cultural District (MSCD) representatives are again making preparations for the community parade. Parade staging will take place on Northwestern Avenue between Sixth Street and Main, in City Hall Parking Lots M and MM, and on Pearle Avenue. Inflatable games, live music, the Bill Riley Talent Show and vendor booths will be located in Bandshell Park.

The following street closures will be needed for the parade from approximately 7:00 a.m. until the end of the parade:

- Main Street, from the Central Business District (CBD) Lot entrance to the Grand Avenue overpass, continuing on Northwestern Avenue to Sixth Street
- Allan Drive
- Pearle Avenue
- Fifth Street, from Grand Avenue to Duff Avenue
- Clark Avenue, from the south driveway of the CBD Lot to Sixth Street
- Burnett Avenue, from Main Street to Fifth Street
- Kellogg Avenue, from just south of Main Street to Fifth Street
- Douglas Avenue, from Main Street to Fifth Street

These street closures will facilitate line-up of the parade entries and the actual parade movement. The public will be notified of the street closures with signs placed on the parking meters.

The following parking lot areas will also need to be closed for parade staging from 7:00 a.m. to approximately 1:00 p.m.:

- Lot MM, to the west of City Hall
- The south portion of Lot M, adjacent to the west door of City Hall (City vehicles and cars of City employees who are on duty will be parked in the north portion of the lot)

Additionally, Parking Lot Q (near the Library) will need to be closed from 7:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. to provide parking for a portion of the 200 volunteers that are needed for the

festivities. There are a total of 82 spaces available in Lot Q; however, 16 spaces are leased. The lessees would not be displaced during the parking lot closure, but will be allowed access to and egress from the lot.

Art Weeks, Ames Public Library Director, has been contacted about this request and advised that the parking lot closure would not create any hardship for the Library since it is closed on that day.

Event organizers are also requesting the closure of Fifth Street, between Duff Avenue and Carroll Avenue, from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. for inflatable games, live music, booths, a Talent Show, and food vendors. They have also asked to close the south side of Sixth Street adjacent to Bandshell Park for vendor loading/unloading. Organizers will notify neighbors near Bandshell Park of the street closures.

The following permits and waivers are also requested from the City Council for July 4:

- A Blanket Vending Permit and Blanket Temporary Obstruction Permit for the MSCD from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- Waiver of the fee for the Vending Permit and for electricity to be used from the outlets in the MSCD and at City Hall.

Public Works will provide barricades and “No Parking” signs, as needed, to close the streets and control access to the parking lots. Organizers will be responsible for the replacement of any lost or damaged barricades.

### **ALTERNATIVES:**

1. The City Council can approve the requests for activities on July 4, including:
  - Closure of Clark Avenue, from Fifth Street to Sixth Street, from 6:00 p.m. on July 3 to approximately 12:30 p.m. on July 4 for the City Council’s Community Pancake Breakfast
  - Closure of portions of Northwestern Avenue, Main Street, Douglas Avenue, Fifth Street, Burnett Avenue, Kellogg Avenue, Clark Avenue, Allan Drive, Pearle Avenue from 7:00 a.m. to approximately 1:00 p.m. for the parade scheduled at 11:00 a.m.
  - Closure of Fifth Street, between Duff Avenue and Carroll Avenue, from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. for inflatable games, live music, booths, a Talent Show, and food vendors
  - Closure of Parking Lot MM and the south half of Parking Lot M west of City Hall from 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
  - Closure of Parking Lot Q from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
  - Waiver of electrical fees for use of outlets in the MSCD and at City Hall and waiver of the Vending Permit fee
  - Blanket Temporary Obstruction Permit and Blanket Vending Permit for the MSCD from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
  - Closure of the south side of Sixth Street adjacent to Bandshell Park for vendor loading/unloading

2. The City Council can ask staff or the event organizers for further information or to make different arrangements.
3. The City Council can deny the requests for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July activities.

**MANAGER’S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

The return of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade in 2004 provided a great opportunity to bring the citizens of Ames together to celebrate. With the addition of the City Council Community Pancake Breakfast and day-long festivities in the Main Street Cultural District, this event provides the City Council with a way to partner with the Main Street Cultural District to promote “One community” by supporting this worthwhile event.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, thereby approving the requests detailed above.