

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: STREET N GREET BLOCK PARTY TRAILER

BACKGROUND:

The City of Ames has a long tradition of supporting strong neighborhoods, because they are the building blocks of a vibrant, connected community. Over the years the Ames City Council has shown its support for various neighborhood programs, one of which is the Street 'N' Greet Block Party Trailer.

Block parties in the Ames Community have been a great opportunity for neighbors to interact, to welcome new residents, and for the City Council members and/or city staff to receive input about what is important to the neighborhood residents. The addition of the Street N Greet Block Party Trailer has become a very popular and highly sought addition to a Neighborhood Block Party. **The Trailer is free of charge and contains a variety of items such as street barricades, tables, chairs, canopy tent, name tags, sound system, First Aid kit, and outdoor games for children and adults. The trailer is available to be reserved from end of March through the end of October.**

The initial creators and administrators of the trailer was a group called United Ames. The group dissolved in approximately FY 2010-11. The Departments of Planning & Housing, Administrative Services, Police, Fleet Services, and Public Works have since been sharing the responsibilities of administrating the operations of the trailer.

After the FY 2014-15 block trailer season ended, an assessment and inspection of the trailer was completed. This assessment revealed the following needs for the trailer (see Attachment A), which totals approximately \$1,099.55. There is currently no permanent budget appropriation to cover the cost of these repairs and supplies. Although donations are solicited through a box that is located in the trailer, it is not enough to address the ongoing and higher cost needs of maintaining the trailer. Since the opening season to begin reserving the trailer is approaching, staff is requesting that the City Council authorize an amount not to exceed \$1,200 from their Council Contingency Account to cover the cost of the restocking and repairing the trailer.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. The City Council can approve a resolution to authorize an amount not to exceed \$1,200 from its FY 2015/16 Council Contingency Account to cover the cost of

restocking and repairing the Street N Greet Block Party Trailer.

2. In an attempt to recover the repair and restocking costs associated with the trailer's use, the City Council can implement a new fee to be charged to neighborhoods who utilize the trailer.
3. The City Council can refer this item back to staff for more information.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

It is important that the Street N Greet Block Party Trailer continues to play a vital role in connecting neighborhoods and building a sense of community. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative #1. This alternative calls for the approval of a resolution to authorize an amount not to exceed \$1,200 from its FY 2015/16 Council Contingency Account to cover the cost of restocking and repairing the Street N Greet Block Party Trailer so that it is available for use in the spring.

ATTACHMENT A

Restocking Estimate Items	Price
New H frame for the Street 'N' Greet Trailer sign that is displayed in the yard to help advertise the event.	\$40.00
Adult Horseshoes Set (power coated Steel in a cloth bag).	\$42.99
4-Player Resin Bocce Ball Set with Carrying Case.	\$59.99
Bean Bag Toss Game Set-Superior Aluminum Frame with Carrying case.	\$89.99
Soccer Balls 2 x \$12.99	\$25.98
Frisbees/Plastic Disc (quantity 4).	\$14.24
16 Wand Bubble Machine Auto Blowers.	\$40.99
12-8 oz Bottles of Bubble Solution.	\$ 7.97
12 Gallon (48 Quarts) Plastic Storage Box with Attached Lid (21 ½ inch by 15 inch by 12 ½) \$20.89 each x 3.	\$62.04
24 Gallon Rubbermaid Storage Box (26.5 x 19.3 x 17.4 inches) Need one for larger items. \$52.68 x 2.	\$105.36
Items that need replenished throughout the season such as bubbles etc.	\$50.00
Sub-total	\$539.55
Repair Estimate Items:	\$560.00
Trailer Hitch Repair	
Installation of new Door Hooks & Hinges	
Power Washing & Interior Cleaning	
Additional Locks and Keys	
GRAND TOTAL	\$1,099.55