



To: Mayor and City Council
From: Tasheik Kerr, Management Analyst
Date: February 5, 2017
Subject: Mayor and Council's Bike Ride

City Council referred to staff the request on how to resurrect the Mayor's Bike Ride and on renaming it the Mayor and Council's Bike Ride on August 8, 2017. Staff is proposing the following organizational aspects of the event with the intent that if the Council does not have any objections, staff will proceed with the event as laid out.

At the suggestion of the Ames Bicycle Coalition and Ames Kidical Mass, staff is proposing the bike ride be held the morning of Saturday, May 12, 2018. This date will ensure there would be no conflict with ISU graduation. Also, since May is National Bike Month, the bike ride will serve as a kick-off for National Bike to Work Week. Lot M directly west of City Hall will serve as the staging area for the bike ride. Vehicle parking will be available in Lot M for those who choose to park and bike.

The 6.4 mile bike ride will start at City Hall and end at Ada Hayden Heritage Park. Riders will exit the City Hall parking lot via Pearle Ave., turn west on Main Street to Sixth Street, and follow the Sixth Street bike path west over the railroad tracks to Brookside Park. From Brookside, riders will head north following the trail to the Furman Aquatic Center. At Furman, riders can take a water break before continuing along the path behind Ames High School to Stange Road. From Stange Road, riders will turn east on 24th Street and follow bike-friendly streets north to Ada Hayden Heritage Park. (See route on attached map.)

While much of the ride will be along shared use paths, there will be places where bicyclists will be on the street. The pace along the route will be slow to ensure the safety of participants. The distance one-way is approximately 6.4 miles and will take around an hour. Total round-trip is around 12.8 miles with ride time estimated to be two hours.

At Ada Hayden, riders would enjoy refreshments. Staff will work with various City departments to bring display vehicles and provide educational opportunities and outreach. At a designated time, riders could return to City Hall with an organized group. Riders who wish to stay at the park longer or have a different destination could depart when convenient.

