

ITEM #: 10
DATE: 11-26-24
DEPT: ADMIN

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: **REQUESTS FROM AMES MAIN STREET FOR ART WALK
ON THURSDAY, JUNE 5, 2025**

BACKGROUND:

Ames Main Street (AMS) is planning to host its annual Art Walk on Thursday, June 5 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Art Walk showcases downtown businesses and community artists. In order to facilitate this event, AMS has requested approval for the following:

- Blanket Temporary Obstruction Permit for the Central Business District from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- Blanket Vending License for the Central Business District from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and waiver of fee (\$50 loss to City Clerk's Office)
- Use of electricity in Tom Evans Plaza and use of the Plaza for live music and waiver of fees for electricity
- Closure of Douglas Avenue and Kellogg Avenue from Main Street to 5th Street

Ames Main Street is also requesting a closure of 23 metered parking spaces in the Downtown from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. to provide space for vendors, and to waive parking meter fees and enforcement (Loss of \$17.25 to Parking Fund). The Council's policy regarding parking waivers is to consider requests such as this one on a case-by-case basis, as opposed to requiring reimbursement for lost parking revenue. Lost parking revenue is only required to be reimbursed under this policy when the parking waiver is District-wide.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the requests for Art Walk, including the waiver of fees.
2. Approve the requests for Art Walk but require reimbursement for lost parking revenue and for the blanket Vending License.
3. Deny the requests.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Art Walk is a popular annual event that adds vitality to the Downtown. The event organizers have experience in hosting this and many other similar events throughout the year. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, as noted above.

ATTACHMENT(S):

[Downtown Ames Art Walk - Event Application & Support Letter.pdf](#)