COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: REQUESTS FOR MIDNIGHT MADNESS ON JULY 18, 2025

BACKGROUND:

The annual Midnight Madness races will be held at Jack Trice Stadium and the neighborhoods west of the stadium on Saturday, July 18. The event includes 5k, 10k, and kid runs, followed by activities around Jack Trice Stadium in conjunction with the Iowa Games Opening Ceremony. An estimated 600 people will participate and approximately 800 spectators will be at the event.

Runners will utilize shared use paths where applicable. Organizers are requesting the following partial street closures from 5:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 18:

- Ashmore Drive from Beach Avenue to Gaskill Drive
- Gaskill Drive from Ashmore Drive to Country Club Boulevard
- Country Club Boulevard from Gaskill Drive to Kildee Street
- Agg Avenue from Kildee Street to Cessna Street
- Cessna Street from Agg Avenue to Beach Avenue

City staff will provide barricades and traffic cones to facilitate this event, blocking a dedicated running lane while allowing vehicle traffic to use other lanes to enter and exit the affected area. Residents in the affected area will be notified with door hangers during the week prior to the event, and electronic message signs (if available) will be utilized to warn motorists.

Additionally, all food trucks, activities, and potential alcohol service will take place on Iowa State University property.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the requests for Midnight Madness on July 18, 2025, as outlined above.

2. Do not approve the requests for Midnight Madness.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Midnight Madness has been held since 1979 and is a popular event that draws many competitors and spectators from a wide area to Ames. There have been no significant problems in the past with the arrangements requested above. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative #1, as described above.

ATTACHMENT(S):
Midnight Madness Application 2025.pdf