

ITEM #: 8  
DATE: 01-14-25  
DEPT: ADMIN

**COUNCIL ACTION FORM**

**SUBJECT:           REQUESTS FROM FITNESS SPORTS AMES FOR TURKEY TROT ON  
NOVEMBER 27, 2025**

**BACKGROUND:**

Fitness Sports Ames has requested to host a Thanksgiving morning 5k, known as a "Turkey Trot", on November 27, 2025. This is the second year of the event. An estimated 300 people will enter the race. The event will begin and end in the downtown area. A portion of the route along 13th Street will utilize a shared-use path. Other portions of the route will require street closures. In order to facilitate this event, organizers are requesting partial street closures on Thursday, November 27, 2025, at the following locations:

- 5th Street from Burnett Avenue to Clark Avenue
- Clark Avenue from 5th Street to Main Street
- Main Street from Clark Avenue to 6th Street
- 6th Street from Northwestern Avenue to Brookside Park
- Ridgewood Avenue from 13th Street to 6th Street
- Burnett Avenue from Main Street to 5th Street

Metered parking spaces along the route will also be closed. Since Thanksgiving is a City holiday, no parking meter revenue will be lost. Volunteers will be stationed at intersections along the route to assist traffic. Furthermore, because several blocks of residences between Ioway Creek and Ridgewood Avenue rely on Ridgewood Avenue to gain access, organizers will ensure runners are primarily concentrated on the left side of the road while on Ridgewood to ensure maximum visibility to motorists.

**City staff will provide barricades and traffic cones to facilitate this event, blocking a dedicated running lane while allowing vehicle traffic to continue using other lanes.**

A letter of support has been obtained from Ames Main Street for the event.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Approve the requests for the Turkey Trot on November 27, 2025, as outlined above.
2. Do not approve the requests for the Turkey Trot.

**CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

The Turkey Trot offers an opportunity to attract the public to Downtown Ames for a unique event. The applicant has provided all necessary documentation to support these requests. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council approve Alternative 1, as described above.

**ATTACHMENT(S):**

[2025 Turket Trot Fitness Sports Ames Letter of Support.pdf](#)  
[Special Event Application.pdf](#)