

ITEM #: 10  
DATE: 02-10-26  
DEPT: ADMIN

## COUNCIL ACTION FORM

**SUBJECT: REQUESTS FOR MIDNIGHT MADNESS ON JULY 10, 2026**

### **BACKGROUND:**

The annual Midnight Madness race will be held on Friday, July 10. The event includes a 5k beginning and ending at Torrent Brewing (504 Burnett Avenue). Post race activities will also be held at Torrent Brewing. An estimated 500 people will participate in the race and approximately 800 spectators will be at the event. Proposed activities include live music and food vendors, which will be hosted in the parking lots of Torrent Brewing, First National Bank, and within the closure on Burnett Avenue. Barricades will be placed at 5th Street and 6th Street to close Burnett Avenue beginning at 6:00 p.m. the day of the race.

Organizers are requesting the following partial street closures from 8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Friday, July 10:

- Kellogg Avenue from 12th Street to 5th Street
- 10th, 11th, and 12th Street from Burnett Avenue to Kellogg Avenue
- 5th Street from Kellogg Avenue to Pearle Avenue
- Pearle Avenue from 5th Street to Main Street
- Main Street/Northwestern Avenue from Pearle Avenue to 9th Street
- 9th Street from Northwestern Avenue to Hodge Avenue
- Hodge Avenue from 9th Street to 7th Street
- 7th Street from Northwestern Avenue to Hodge Avenue

Closure of Burnett Avenue from 5th Street to 6th Street is requested from 6:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. on July 10 to facilitate setup of the post-race celebration events.

Volunteers will be posted along the race route to assist with traffic control. The event organizers noted that a car would follow the last runner to remove barricades as the runners move through the area to allow roads to reopen in a timely manner. Event organizers will clean up the event on Friday night into Saturday morning, with cleanup being completed by 12:00 a.m. A Road Race Permit will be issued by the City Clerk's Office for the event. Midnight Madness organizers will also obtain a Noise Permit for this event.

### **ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Approve the requests for Midnight Madness on July 10, 2026, 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.** Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, as described above.

**ATTACHMENT(S):**

[Midnight Madness Application](#)

[2026 Midnight Madness Race Route.pdf](#)