

ITEM #:	14
DATE:	07-14-26
DEPT:	ADMIN

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

**SUBJECT: REQUESTS FROM FITNESS SPORTS AMES FOR TURKEY TROT ON
NOVEMBER 26, 2026**

BACKGROUND:

Fitness Sports Ames has requested to host a Thanksgiving morning 5k, known as a "Turkey Trot", on November 26, 2026. This is the third year of the event. An estimated 700 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 from 7:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, November 26, 2026, at the following locations:

- 5th Street from Kellogg Avenue to Pearle Avenue
- Pearle Avenue from 5th Street to Main Street
- Main Street/Northwestern Avenue from Douglas Avenue to 13th Street
- 9th Street from Northwestern Avenue to Ridgewood Avenue and Roosevelt Avenue to Hodge Avenue
- Ridgewood Avenue from 9th Street to 13th Street
- 10th Street from Northwestern Avenue to Roosevelt Avenue
- Roosevelt Avenue from 10th Street to 9th Street
- Hodge Avenue from 9th Street to 6th Street
- 6th Street from Hodge Avenue to Northwestern Avenue
- Douglas Avenue from Main Street to East 7th Street
- East 7th Street from Main Street to Kellogg Avenue
- Kellogg Avenue from East 7th 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 26, 2026, 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):

[Ames Main St LOS - Fitness Sports Turkey Trot
Special Event Application
Race Route - Turkey Trot](#)