



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, July 14, 2015

Council Session

Item G-13

#2015-177 - Approving Request from the Multicultural Coalition of Grand Island for Permission to Use City Streets and State Highway for the Third Annual Multicultural Day of the Dead Festival

Staff Contact: John Collins, P.E. - Public Works Director

Council Agenda Memo

From: John Collins PE, Public Works Director

Meeting: July 14, 2015

Subject: Consideration of Approving Request from the Multicultural Coalition of Grand Island for Permission to Use City Streets and State Highway for the Third Annual Multicultural Day of the Dead Festival

Presenter(s): John Collins PE, Public Works Director

Background

The City received a request dated June 25, 2015, from the Multicultural Coalition of Grand Island Executive Director requesting to use City streets and a State highway for the Third Annual Multicultural Day of the Dead Festival. This is a community event that consists of a 5k race, 1-mile fun run, free entertainment, authentic food, art, games and a dance.

Discussion

The Multicultural Coalition of Grand Island is seeking Council approval and notice to the Nebraska Department of Roads for the Third Annual Multicultural Day of the Dead Festival to be held on Saturday, October 24, 2015.

The race route will require the use of City streets, as well as crossing 1st Street and 2nd Street. Please see the attached maps.

State Statute 39-1359 requires the City Council to approve the route and for the City to then inform the Nebraska Department of Roads that the route has approval if it closes or blocks any part of a State highway. This is a requirement for any race, parade or march that would create some closure of the highway. This action then makes the City responsible for the liability of using a State highway for the event.

In planning for the event and to achieve the best identified route the request has been reviewed by public safety and public works.

Alternatives

It appears that the Council has the following alternatives concerning the issue at hand. The Council may:

1. Move to approve
2. Refer the issue to a Committee
3. Postpone the issue to future date
4. Take no action on the issue

Recommendation

City Administration recommends that the Council approve the Third Annual Multicultural Day of the Dead Festival and direct that the Nebraska Department of Roads be notified of this action.

Sample Motion

Move to approve the resolution.



June 25, 2015

Dear City of Grand Island,

We at the Multicultural Coalition are excited to announce our third annual Multicultural Day of the Dead Festival! This event is scheduled for October 24th and will include a 5k race, a 1-mile fun run, free entertainment, authentic food, art, games, a dance and more! The event is free and open to the community. This year, we will be hosting the event downtown on 3rd Street. Both the 5k race and the 1 mile race will start and finish on 3rd Street. Both race routes include a crossing of 2nd Street. Enclosed you will find further information and a map of our proposed race routes.

Dia de los Muertos, also known as "The Day of the Dead," is a unique and colorful tradition that is primarily celebrated in Mexico and Latin America, but is quickly gaining popularity in the U.S. The Day of the Dead traditionally takes place on the days of October 31 through November 2 and is marked by parades, public art, entertainment; family gatherings and the observance of loved ones that have passed. The Day of the Dead is not a somber event and it definitely isn't zombies! It is a celebration of life.

This event was created to bring together our diverse community, increase cultural awareness and provide an opportunity for people to learn about this unique tradition. The proceeds of this event will be used to support the Multicultural Coalition, a 501c3 non-profit organization. Founded in 2003, the Multicultural Coalition is a comprehensive service delivery center is that is constantly evolving to meet the needs of our diverse community. Our small, but MIGHTY organization served more than 1,400 people last year through health fairs, educational programs, direct services and more!

Thank you for your consideration as we work to create a worthwhile event for the Grand Island community. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. Our number is 308-385-5242 and my email is jschade@mcofigi.org.

Sincerely,

Jocelyn Schade
Executive Director

Multicultural Day of the Dead Festival 2015 Proposal



Who: The Multicultural Coalition

When: October 24, 2015 (active time: 12:00pm – 8:00pm / with set up and tear down: 8:00am-10:00pm)

Where: 3rd Street from Walnut St. – Cedar St.

***Note:** Additional streets from Sycamore to Cleburn will be blocked off for the duration of the races)

Post-Festival Dance

Location: Liederkranz

Time: 7:00-12:00am

Race Start Times:

5k start at 6:40p.m.

1 Mile start at 6:45 pm

Purpose: To raise money to support the Multicultural Coalition and to provide an immersive educational and celebratory experience for the Grand Island community. This event increases cultural awareness, cross-cultural interaction and creates a more unified community.

Race Director: Jocelyn Schade

Phone: 308-385-5242

Email: jschade@mcofgi.org

5K Course (Written Out) – Our 5K race will begin at the intersection of 3rd and Elm Street. Runners will take a left onto Cleburn St., continuing east at which point they will cross 1st and 2nd Street. The runners will continue on Cleburn, turning right (south) onto Koeing St. and then left (east) onto Clark St. Runners will continue on Clark St. until where it connects with the Hike and Bike Trail. Runners will run on the Hike and Bike Trail going south toward Suck's Lake, make a loop around Suck's Lake and use the same route back to the Start/Finish line. This is an Out & Back style race route and the start and finish line are at the same location. Uniformed policeman will be monitoring both points at which runners will cross 1st and 2nd. Volunteers will be present at every intersection and there will be a guide leading the race and another following the last runner.

1 Mile Course (Written Out) – Runners of the 1 mile race will begin at the same Start/Finish Line as the 5k, but instead of turning right on Cleburn, 1 mile runners will turn right (west) and then turn right into the alley. The race continues through the alley until Cedar at which runners will turn left and follow the bend towards South Front St. The route continues on South Front St. until Sycamore where runners will turn right, (east) using the road – not the underpass, and turn right again onto 3rd St. and run through 3rd street until they reach the start/finish line at Elm.

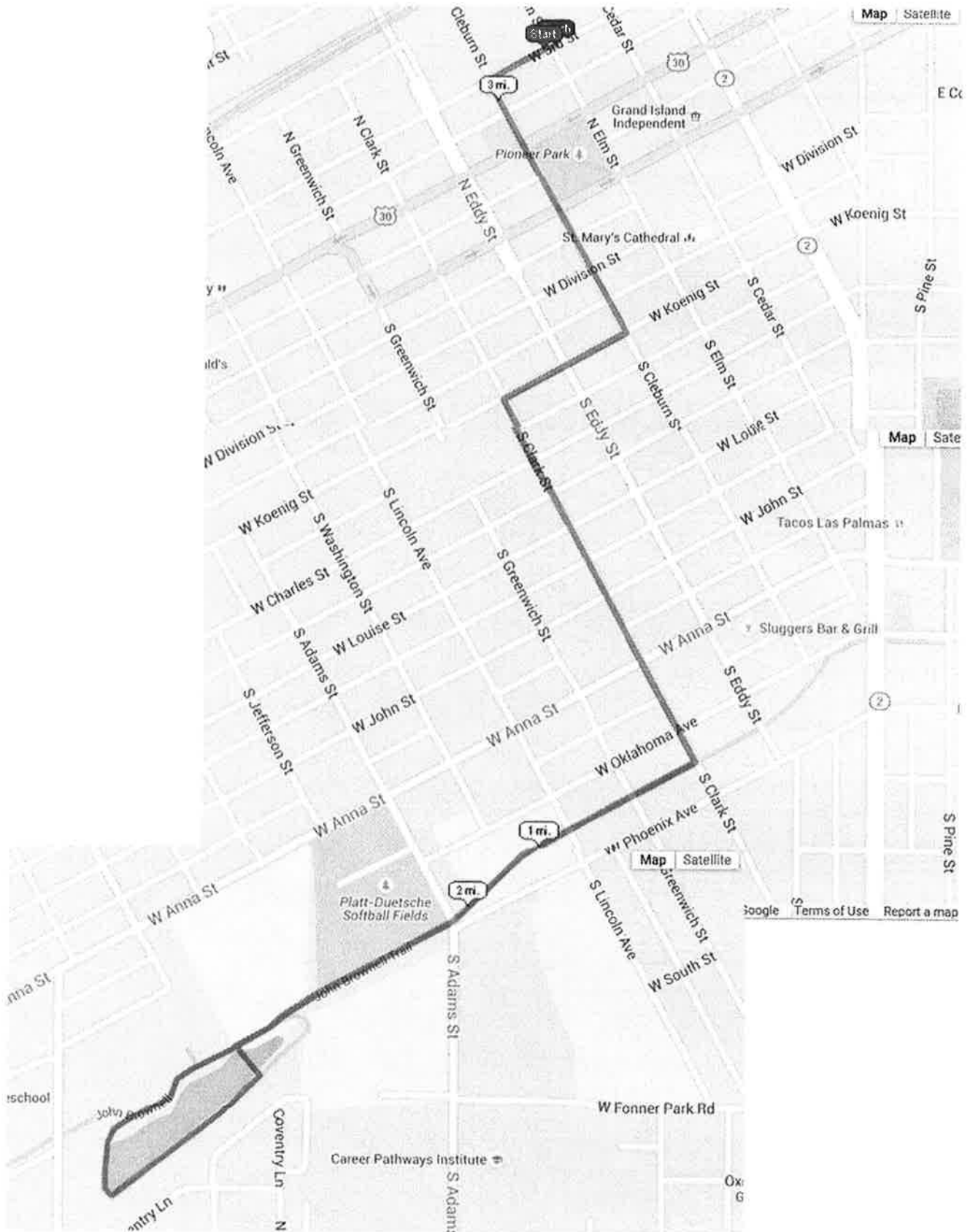
*Both of these race routes have been reviewed by Captain Falldorf and Shannon Callahan. Route images are attached.

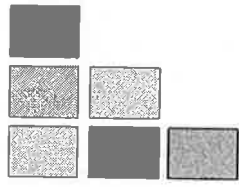
Beer Garden:

We are proposing to have a Beer Garden during the festival that will be open from 12:00 to 8:00pm. The Beer Garden is planned to be on Wheeler Ave. across from Kaufman Park, which is where entertainment will be hosted throughout the event. It will have a boundary on all sides per city code with people checking identification at the entrance. People age 21 and older will have to acquire a wristband in order to enter the Beer Garden. There will also be two uniformed policeman monitoring this area. Brent Linder will be providing the liquor license and managing the Beer Garden.

*The Downtown Director and Committee are aware of these plans and are supportive of the event.

5k Race Route





1 Mile Race Route



RESOLUTION 2015-177

WHEREAS, the Multicultural Coalition of Grand Island is seeking Council approval and notice to the Nebraska Department of Roads for the Third Annual Multicultural Day of the Dead Festival in Grand Island on October 24, 2015; and

WHEREAS, the Multicultural Coalition of Grand Island has worked with the City in planning & developing an acceptable race route; and

WHEREAS, specific wording is required by the Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR) pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat §39-1359, and

WHEREAS, the City accepts the duties set out in neb. Rev. Stat. §39-1359, and that if a claim is made against the State, the City shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the State from all claims, demands, actions, damages, and liability, including reasonable attorney's fees, that may arise as a result of the special event, more specifically defined as the Third Annual Multicultural Day of the Dead Festival to be held on October 24, 2015; and

WHEREAS, the route for the special event necessitates the crossing of both 1st Street and 2nd Street at Cleburn Street; and

WHEREAS, the special event will be held on October 24, 2015, with the control of both 1st Street and 2nd Street at Cleburn Street being assumed by the City at 4:00 pm on October 24, 2015 and ending at 8:00 pm on October 24, 2015, at which time control of both 1st Street and 2nd Street at Cleburn Street, shall revert to the State.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA, that the use of City streets and State highway to accommodate the Third Annual Multicultural Day of the Dead Festival on October 24, 2015 is hereby approved.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Nebraska Department of Roads shall be notified of the approved route.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska, July 14, 2015.

Jeremy L. Jensen, Mayor

Attest:

RaNae Edwards, City Clerk

Approved as to Form	☐ _____
July 10, 2015	☐ City Attorney