



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, September 22, 2015

Council Session

Item G-20

#2015-264 - Approving Request from the GRACE Foundation for Permission to Use City Streets and State Highway for the 2016 10K Race and 2-Mile Family Fun Run

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

Council Agenda Memo

From: John Collins PE, Public Works Director

Meeting: September 22, 2015

Subject: Consideration of Approving Request from the GRACE Foundation for Permission to Use City Streets and State Highway for the 2016 10K Race and 2-Mile Family Fun Run

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

Background

The GRACE Foundation was established in 2008 to assist local cancer patients, survivors and their families.

The 5th Annual Race for GRACE event was held in April 2015, with the foundation raising just over \$40,000 to assist individuals and their families affected by cancer right here in our local community. There were over 1,850 runners from many states and numerous Nebraska communities.

Discussion

The GRACE Foundation is seeking Council approval and notice to the Nebraska Department of Roads for their 6th annual Race for GRACE in downtown Grand Island on April 2, 2016.

The race route will require the use of City streets, as well as 2nd Street (Lincoln Highway). Please see the attached map of the route.

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 6th Annual Race for GRACE and direct that the Nebraska Department of Roads be notified of this action.

Sample Motion

Move to approve the resolution.

August 25, 2015



Dear City of Grand Island:

The GRACE Foundation is very excited to announce the 6th annual Race for GRACE in downtown Grand Island in the Spring of 2016. This event will again include a 10K race and 2-mile family fun run with both the start and finish at the historic Grand Theatre. The GRACE Foundation was established in 2008 to assist local cancer patients, survivors and their families. It was born out of the need to help local cancer patients and their families in their fight with this deadly disease.

The 5th Annual Race For GRACE was held in April of 2015 and was even more successful than the 4th one. We were able to raise over \$40,000 to assist individuals and families affected by cancer right here in our local community. There were over 1,850 runners this year from many states and numerous Nebraska communities. We have had great success having our event downtown, and we are grateful for the support we receive from downtown businesses and the City of Grand Island. It has become a way for the community to join together for an amazing cause that really does impact the lives of so many. Numerous people have shared with us the impact that the race has had on them and the sense of hope and healing it has brought to their lives.

Due to the success of the Celebration Garden the past few years, we are going to continue to provide this celebratory component for the race in 2016. This includes the beer garden in Kaufmann Park. Local downtown businessman Brent Lindner is going to sponsor the liquor license again and will fill out the necessary paperwork for this in early 2016. There will again be identification bands used to distinguish those who are 21 years of age and older. As required by city code a boundary will be established within Kaufmann Park for the beer garden. We will request written approval from Business Improvement District #8 to utilize Kaufmann Park. In addition, we will also request written consent from the neighboring property owners, Wells Fargo Bank and Carl Mayhew.

The start time of the race is 8:30 am on Saturday, April 2, 2016. In order to accommodate runners and the volunteers, some blocks of 3rd Street would need to be closed from 4:00 am - 12:00 pm for set-up, the actual race and clean-up. There will also be cones and barricades set up to assist in traffic control and runner safety. We met with both Captain Falldorf of the Police Department and Shannon Callahan of the Streets Department after the race this year to assure that things were both safe and manageable. The only blocks that will continue to be closed until 12:00 pm is from Walnut to N. Locust on Third Street. The courses will remain as they were in 2015.

At this time we want to let the city know of our continued effort to promote the safest race environment possible for all involved. If you have any concerns or questions, please feel free to contact me at (308) 380-8757 or via e-mail at angieziller@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Angie Ziller
Race Director, Race for GRACE

cc: Chief Lamken, Captain Falldorf, Grand Island Police Department; Chief Cory Schmidt, Grand Island Fire Department; John Collins, Public Works Director; and Shannon Callahan, Street Superintendent; and Catrina DeLosh, Public Works Assistant

Race for GRACE proposal 2015

Who: GRACE Foundation (Grand Island Area Cancer Endowment)

When: April 2, 2016

Where: Start/Finish at The Grand Theatre, Downtown Grand Island
(same as 2011-2015)

Chief Lamken has approved the course for safety. We are paying G.I. Police for safety at major crossings as deemed necessary by Chief Lamken and Captain Falldorf.

Time: 10K start at 8:30 am (wave start if necessary based on registered participants)
2-Mile Family Fun Run rolling wave start at 8:35 am

Purpose: Raise money to support the mission of the GRACE Foundation (Grand Island Area Cancer Endowment)

Course Committee: Angie Ziller--Race Director; Niki Messmer—Course Coordinator

Race Director: Angie Ziller at 380-8757 or 389-3843 or angieziller@gmail.com

Request: In order to have the race downtown, we will need to close some of the streets for a period of time consistent with the race procedures for 2011-2015.

(1) We need to close 3rd St. from Cleburn to Oak Streets from 4:00 am - 10:30 am (????--depending on tear down of the finish line/chute) in order to assure we have everything prepared for the start and finish of the race as well as tearing down the chute at the end. The past 5 years we were able to clean up very quickly and had streets opened up as soon as possible. The other streets that would also need to be closed are from Wheeler to Oak Streets on 3rd Street.; however, these would be opened sooner because runners would finish sooner in the 2 mile run. The only streets that would remain closed until 12:00 pm is from Walnut to N. Locust on 3rd Street.

(2) We need to have the Eddy Street light switched to an "emergency" flashing light with officers present to assist while the 10K runners are on the course. Chief Lamken and Captain Falldorf have agreed that this is the safest way to provide runners the means to cross Eddy Street heading east on 3rd St. This is the same way this intersection was handled in 2012-2015.

(3) North Walnut Street will be closed from 2nd Street until Walnut and Locust merge between Charles and Ashton and continue to be closed until Fonner Park Road. At this point runners would be merged into one lane and continue south on South Locust Street. Officers are used for directing traffic on Walnut Street at both 1st and 2nd Streets and on South Locust Street at Fonner Park Road and Stolley Park Road. South Locust will be reopened immediately after the last runner is funneled to the right (west lane) of traffic. This is at the beginning of the race and so will only be closed for a short time.

This is the same way it was handled in 2015.

(4) The underpass at Sycamore and North Front Street to 3rd Streets would be closed from 8:35 am - 9:30 am to provide safety to the runners on the 2-Mile course as well as to alleviate congestion of cars in that area. There will be an officer here as well to assist runners across. In 2013 and 2014 this underpass was switched to an “emergency” flashing light.

10K Course Written Out: <http://www.usatf.org/routes/view.asp?rID=425879> (at U.S. Track and Field)

The basic course (same as 2012-2015) begins at 3rd Street in front of the Grand Theatre and proceeds west until Walnut St. at which point the runners head south on N. Walnut St. Two lanes are closed from 2nd St. until Walnut and Locust merge between Charles and Ashton and on South Locust St. to Fonner Park Rd. At this point runners merge to one lane from Fonner Park Road and continue to run south until Stagecoach Rd. They will turn right and follow Stagecoach Rd. until Riverview Dr. They follow this which turns into Williams St. until Stolley Pk. Rd. They will cross Stolley Pk. Rd. and head west briefly until turning right onto Arthur St. Runners will take Arthur north until they reach Buechler Pk. and then head west for 2 blocks. At this point they will go north 2 blocks and connect with 3rd St. At 3rd St. they will head east crossing Eddy with a stop-and-go light and an officer to assist. From here they will run to the finish on 3rd St. which is the Grand Theatre.

2 Mile Family Fun Run Proposal:

The 2-mile route will remain the same as 2015. This allows for runners to maneuver better by starting the race with a straight route for several blocks and then having wider lanes/space to run. Additionally, it decreases traffic issues. The runners will be spread along the course by using Second Street and returning on W. South Front Street. With less runner traffic on W. South Front Street, vehicles will be able to reach downtown businesses such as the post office, US Bank, Sherman Williams and Sin City.

In addition to increases in safety and decreases in traffic issues for runners, 2-mile route also benefits the volunteers. The volunteers are able to set-up certain aspects of the race, such as the U-turn area and food/beverage area, prior to the start of the race. This will allow the volunteers to provide safety support in other areas and for the runners as they cross the finish line.

Course Map: Attached

Course Description:

1. Runners will begin at the Grand Theater on W. 3rd Street and head west to N. Cleburn Street.
2. Turn left onto N. Cleburn Street and head south to W. 2nd Street.
3. Turn left onto W. 2nd Street and head east to N. Oak Street.
4. Turn left onto N. Oak Street and head north to East 3rd Street.
5. Turn left onto East 3rd Street and head west to N. Locust Street
6. Make a U-turn at the intersection of East 3rd Street and N. Locust Street and head east on East 3rd Street to N. Oak Street.
7. Turn left onto N. Oak Street and head north to E. South Front Street.
8. Turn left onto E. South Front Street and head west to N. Walnut Street.
9. Turn left onto N. Walnut Street and head south to W. 3rd Street.
10. Turn left onto W. 3rd Street and head east to finish line chute located in front of the Grand Theater.

Additional Police Presence:

In addition to the officer stationed at Third Street and Sycamore Street, the Race for GRACE would like to have an officer placed at N. Walnut and E. South Front Street. Consistent with Race for GRACE policy, the GRACE Foundation will compensate the Grand Island Police Department for the additional police presence.

Volunteers:

Volunteers will be placed at each intersection along the course to ensure runner safety by monitoring/controlling traffic and be of assistance to the participants of the race.

Safety:

The Race for GRACE Committee continues to work in conjunction with the Grand Island Streets Department to insure runner, volunteer and traffic safety. We have developed a cone/barricade signage plan with Shannon Callahan which can be provided upon request.

Insurance:

The GRACE Foundation's Insurance agent who processes the event policy for the Race for GRACE has been notified and has approved the proposed 2-Mile route change.

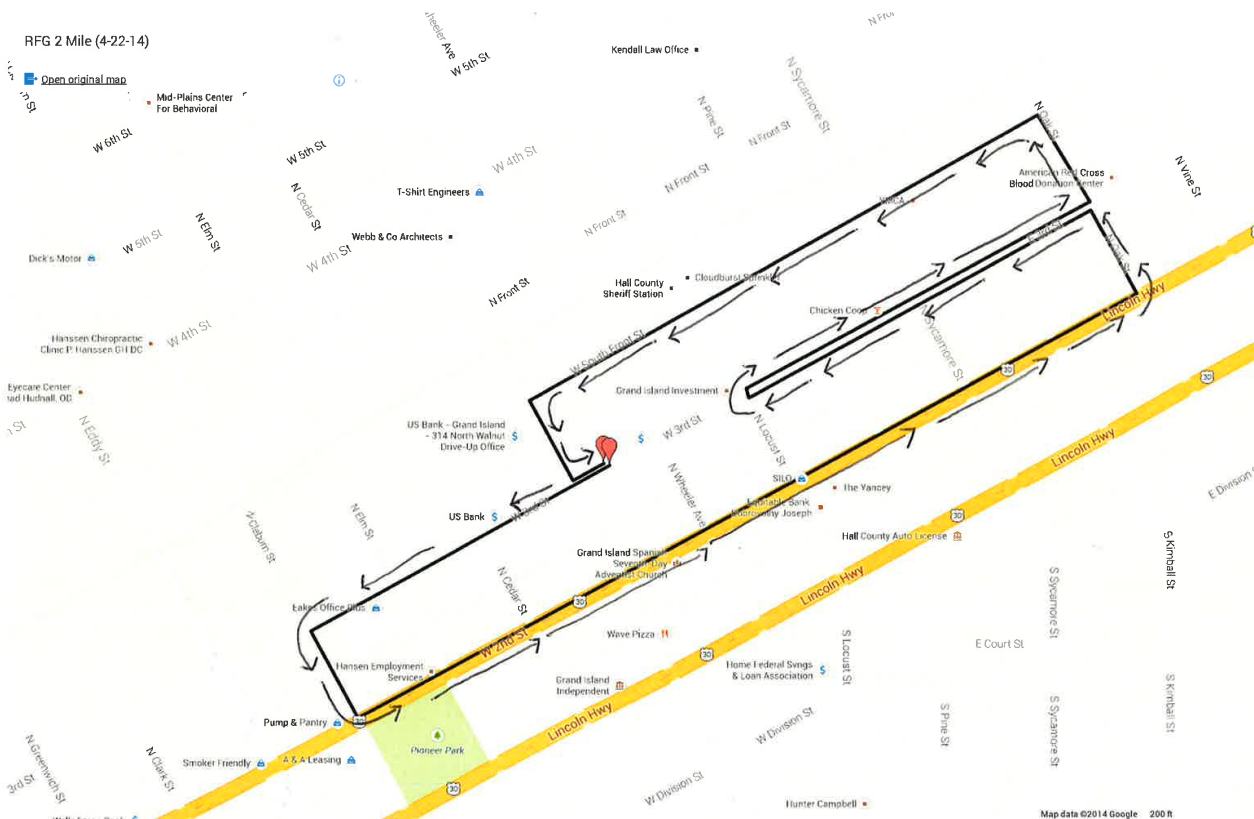
Celebration Garden:

We are having the Celebration Garden just as we did last year as stated in the cover letter. The Celebration garden will go from the time the first runner crosses the finish line until 12:00 pm. 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 receive a drink containing alcohol in it. The liquor license is being provided by Brent Lindner who will be submitting this application after the first of the year per ReNae Edwards instruction. There will also be nonalcoholic beverages available for persons under the age of 21. Double Lock Security is in charge of checking IDs and security of the Celebration Garden.

**A proposal for approval is signed by the Downtown Improvement Board #8 each year.

** A proposal for consent is also requested each year to be signed by the 2 property owners on both the west and east sides of Kaufman Park, including Wells Fargo and Mr. Carl Mayhew.

Map of 2-Mile Course for 2015 Race for GRACE



RESOLUTION 2015-264

WHEREAS, the GRACE Foundation is seeking Council approval and notice to the Nebraska Department of Roads for their 6th Annual Race for GRACE in downtown Grand Island on April 2, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the GRACE Foundation 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 fees, that may arise as a result of the special event, more specifically defined as the 6th Annual Race for GRACE to be held on April 2, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the race route involves a stretch of 2nd Street (Lincoln Highway) from Cleburn Street to Oak Street; and

WHEREAS, the special event will be held on April 2, 2016, with the control of 2nd Street from Cleburn Street to Oak Street being assumed by the City at 4:00 am on April 2, 2016 and ending at 12:00 pm on April 2, 2016, at which time control of 2nd Street from Cleburn Street to Oak 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 6th Annual Race for GRACE on April 2, 2016 is hereby approved.

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

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Adopted by the City Council of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska, September 22, 2015.

Jeremy L. Jensen, Mayor

Attest:

RaNae Edwards, City Clerk

Approved as to Form	☐ _____
September 18, 2015	☐ City Attorney