

ITEM #:	11
DATE:	07-28-26
DEPT:	ADMIN

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: REQUESTS FOR ECOFAIR ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2026

BACKGROUND:

City staff is planning to host the 2026 EcoFair from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 17, 2026. This year's event will host vendors focused on educating citizens of all ages about sustainability, water quality, water conservation, energy conversation, environmental, and climate change.

To facilitate this event, City staff has requested the following:

- a. Blanket Temporary Obstruction Permit
- b. Blanket Vending License
- c. Closure of the south half of Lot M including 6 metered spaces, Lot MM, Lot N including 8 metered spaces, 33 metered spaces along 5th Street, and 11 metered spaces along Clark Avenue from 7:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 17, 2026
- d. Waiver of Vending License fee (\$50 loss to City Clerk's Office)
- e. Waiver of parking meter fees (\$145 loss to Parking Fund)

The waiver of metered parking fees is estimated to result in a loss of \$145 to the Parking Fund. The City Council's policy regarding the waiver of metered parking fees is to consider whether to require reimbursement on a case-by-case basis.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the requests for EcoFair on Saturday, October 17, 2026 as outlined above.
2. Approve the requests, but require the event budget to be used to reimburse the lost revenues for the Vending License and parking waiver.
3. Do not approve the requests.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

EcoFair is a biennial event that connects the Ames Community with City Staff and sustainability experts who provide a range of resources focused on reducing energy consumption and water, land, and resource conservation. **The EcoFair furthers the City Council's Goal to expand Sustainability Efforts.** Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, as described above.

ATTACHMENT(S):

[EcoFair Special Event Application 2026](#)
[Ecofair Layout Map 2026](#)