CITY OF WEST DES MOINES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING COMMUNICATION

ITEM: Approval of Special Event Lane Closure Production/Filming of "Play By Play"

DATE: December 12, 2016

FINANCIAL IMPACT: None

BACKGROUND:

Ordinance 2013 was adopted by the City Council on November 25, 2013, establishing that street or lane closures for special events on arterial or collector streets shall require approval of the City Council.

Nevah, LLC is filming scenes for a pilot for a new TV series "Play By Play" around the Des Moines metro, and requested street closures on 39th Street and Stonebridge Road to film scenes in that area on Monday, December 19th. Staff felt this type of request fit the City Code definition of a special event, so they have been required to go through the special event application/review process.

The requested street closures are on 39th Street, from Western Hills Drive to EP True Parkway, and on Stonebridge Road, from 38th Street to 40th Street, from 4:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. on Monday, December 19th. The applicant has distributed a notice to all the affected property owners (which is attached), and they have also been in contact with Western Hills Elementary so they are aware. The closure at the intersection of 39th Street and Western Hills Drive will be a "soft closure", meaning there will be signage at that intersection indicating "road closed to thru traffic" but there will still be access to the parking lot access drives on 39th Street, and the "hard closure" will begin just south of the southernmost access drive.

Residents in the area will all have access to get in and out of their homes throughout the filming. The roads will remain closed to thru-traffic throughout the filming event, but there will be opportunities to let vehicles through to get to their homes in between scenes. Off-duty officers will be present to assist with traffic control.

This requires Council approval because both 39th Street and Stonebridge Road are classified as minor collector streets. John Busbee is the Location Manager for this project, and he will be present at Monday's Council meeting to answer any questions.

OUTSTANDING ISSUES (if any): None

RECOMMENDATION: Motion - Approval of Lane Closure as Requested for a Special Event

Lead Staff Member: Ryan T. Jacobson, City Clerk

STAFF REVIEWS

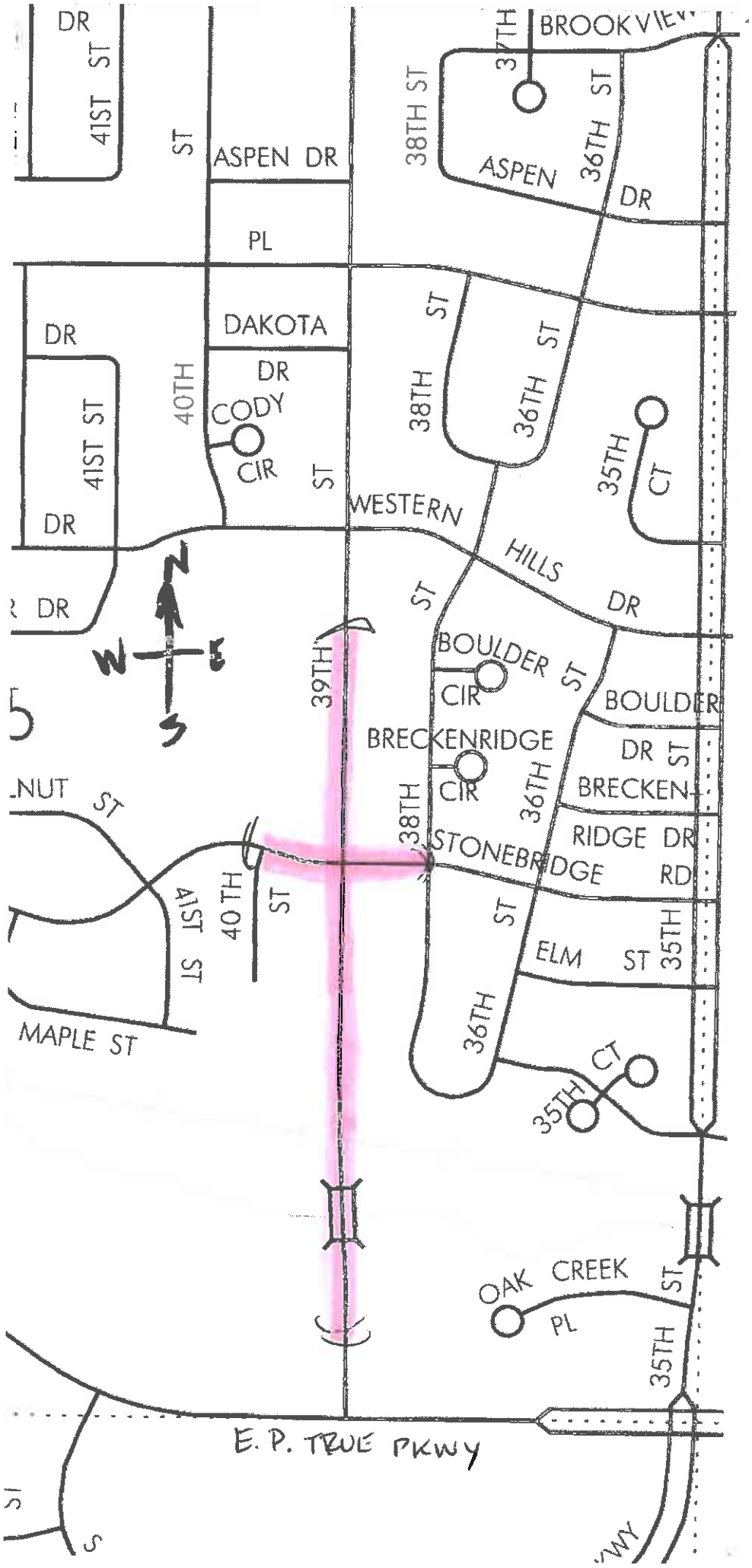
Department Director	Ryan T. Jacobson, City Clerk
Appropriations/Finance	Tim Stiles, Finance Director
Legal	Richard Scieszinski, City Attorney
Agenda Acceptance	

PUBLICATION(S) (if applicable)

Published In	
Dates(s) Published	

SUBCOMMITTEE REVIEW (if applicable)

Committee	
Date Reviewed	



CONTACT: JOHN BUSBEE
515/707-1532

STREET CLOSURES & ITC FOR SPECIAL EVENT (FILM PRODUCTION)

MON DEC 19, 2016

AT AND NEAR 39TH ST. & STONEBRIDGE RD.

DURATION
~ 4:00 PM - MIDNIGHT

2 OFF-DUTY WDM OFFICERS DURING KEY FILMING
4:00 - 8:00 PM

ROAD CLOSURE SIGNAGE ARRANGED WITH BONNIE'S BARRICADES

IMPACTED AREA:
39TH ST SOUTH OF WESTERN HILLS DRIVE, SOUTH TO E.P. TRUE PKWY; AND,

STONEBRIDGE RD. BETWEEN 38TH ST. & 40TH ST.

December 7, 2016

To: West Des Moines residents near 39th Street and Stonebridge Road

From: **John Busbee**, Location Manager for television pilot being filmed in Greater Des Moines area, "Play by Play," and specifically film production work being done on Monday, December 19 in the above-defined West Des Moines neighborhood.
John Busbee contact info: C: 515/707-1532; E: johntaylorbusbee@gmail.com

I am a creative project developer, having worked in media production, as a writer (Iowa History Journal, dsm Magazine, Voices from the Prairie), and the producer of the weekly arts & culture show, The Culture Buzz since 2007. I serve on the Governor's Iowa History Fund foundation, and I also serve on the Clive Public Library Board. I have lived in this community for over 40 years.

I now am working with the City of West Des Moines to most efficiently help a Los Angeles production company work a brief time in the above-named residential area. I did my research before accepting my role with this company, and was impressed then, and even more impressed now with how respectful and appreciative they are when working here in our community.

The producer's last major project was "Hello, My Name Is Doris," starring Sally Field. He had never been to Iowa before, and has been very impressed with all our region has to offer. "Play By Play" is dramedy series about a present day sportscaster who looks back on his life in the 90s and gives the play by play of his adolescence. Imagine "The Wonder Years" but with a sports twist. It's a show with heart and humor and one that depicts the Midwest with great warmth and nostalgia. Once production here wraps just before Christmas, and it goes through post-production editing, this series will be available on Verizon's new platform, Go90. I would look for release in early 2017.

The details for arranging necessary permissions, arranging for off-duty West Des Moines police officers, etc. is being coordinated through the West Des Moines City Manager's office, with assistance from other City offices.

On December 19, we will be filming an important scene for this series on and near 39th Street and Stonebridge Road. During these days, we will be employing off duty West Des Moines police officers to help with intermittent traffic control (ITC) while the production films on the street for a series of important scenes for this show, most notably at the 4-way stop sign at this intersection. The approximate times for this key scene to be filmed at this intersection of these two streets will be about 4:00 PM and last about two hours. For residents along this stretch of 39th Street, especially, we trust you will work with us, as we will work with you, and hold filming during those limited times when you need to leave or return to your homes. The rest of the filming along 39th Street will be south of the intersection, also allowing intermittent traffic control (ITC) to allow residents to drive to their homes, and minimize any driver's short term wait while a scene is filmed.

Per arrangements with the City of West Des Moines, if you have any public comments to make about this temporary situation, you may make them at the Council meeting on December 12, 5:30 PM. If you have any specific questions about how I may help this unique film production project work with the residents of this neighborhood, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you in advance for working with me to be a welcome host for this production company.

Gratefully,

John Busbee
C: 515-707-1532
johntaylorbusbee@gmail.com