



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Recreation Department

City Council Meeting Date: April 21, 2026

To: City Council
From: Andrea Miller, Recreation Director
Date: April 6, 2026

SUBJECT: Friends of Don, Inc. Request for City of Sanibel co-sponsorship of the annual Independence Day Parade and to waive the Special Event fees

BACKGROUND: The Friends of Don, Inc. is a local committee charged with organizing Sanibel's annual Independence Day Parade. Friends of Don, Inc., was created in 1994 in memory of Don Bissell, to carry on the traditional parade that Mr. Bissell was instrumental in organizing, annually.

As an annual recurring event, the Independence Day Parade is considered a grandfathered event. However, the application is brought before City Council annually as the parade organizers request the City's participation as a co-sponsor of the event with an in-kind contribution for Police Services, Public Works assistance and the Special Events Application fee.

FUNDING SOURCE: General Fund; Co-Sponsorship includes waiving the fees for Police and Public Works services and the \$50 Special Event Application Fee.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Council consideration and discussion with direction to staff.

Sanibel is and shall remain a barrier island sanctuary