



DEAR CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS,

The Board of Book Across the Bay is once again in the early planning stages of 2023's ski-snowshoe event. As in the previous years, we are seeking the support of the council in the following requests for the event scheduled **Saturday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023:**

1. A Memorandum of Understanding to alleviate the potential for any increased cost(s) directly to the city administration, specifically the public works department.
  - a. BATB asks that the city provide **ONLY** the following support at no cost to event:
    - i. Unlocking designated power panels within West End Park for power and internet access.
    - ii. Make available as many as 10 parking barricades and as many as 25 orange cones for use.
    - iii. Make available the city-wide Christmas tree collection site for BATB to collect trees from the week prior to the event.
    - iv. Monday, February 20<sup>th</sup> remove the pile of hay & remaining Christmas trees from the tent site at West End Park (estimated time, 1.5 hours total).
  - b. BATB will provide:
    - i. snow removal from the West End Park tent location as well as the additional parking fields located on Holman Lakeshore Drive and the Upper Tent Grounds of West End Park.
    - ii. A contract with Bayfield County Sheriff's Department for 02/19/23 West End Park security.
    - iii. A contract for private dumpsters for all West End Park trash generated from the event.
2. A waiver from the city's noise ordinance for Thompsons's West End Park on Friday, February 18<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, February 18<sup>th</sup> from 12noon until 1:00a.m. on Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup>.
  - a. We would like to host a concert on Friday night before the ski-snowshoe event this year as a method to attract more tourists to the region for an additional day of festivities in our tents, night of lodging in hotels, and added support of our community and businesses from the additional revenue Book will generate.
3. A temporary Class "B" Retailers license for the sale of beer by licensed servers inside the finish tent and in one small (50'x30') roped off and secured area just outside the finish tent for the viewing of our fireworks show for Saturday 2/18/22.
  - a. Our intent to designate a specific, roped off, and secure area roughly 50' by 30' outside of the tent is to provide an area for spectators to view fireworks with their beer to ease policing efforts and enforcement required to disallow all beer outside of the tent.
    - i. Our 2022 event found this space highly effective at helping to manage the consumption outside of the tents and the Sheriffs Reserve Officers noted it was very helpful to have a designated space to monitor.
4. Parking and driving restrictions to alleviate congestion around West End Park.
  - a. As in past years, to efficiently move pedestrians, cars, and busses through town to West End Park we are again suggesting road postings. Namely, 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue West be "No Parking" on either side of the road, "No Parking" on the South side of Bigelow Street, and "No Parking" on the East side of 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue West. The possibility of snowbanks may mean that we will reevaluate this plan prior to the event if needed. City police and Public Works will be encouraged to meet with the BATB Parking team to ensure that the parking and traffic control plan is agreed upon will be adhered to.

We the Board of Directors of Book Across the Bay believe strongly that the event continues to be important to and relevant by offering an affordable and fun winter experience which has dispersed over \$248,000.00 into the region through the use of Work Groups and Service Partnership Agreements with local clubs, schools, and organizations.

Thank you for your favorable decision as in previous years and know that your consideration on the above matters will make the event once again possible for its **26<sup>th</sup>** year. The council as well as city has always been very much appreciated by BATB. Please feel free to contact us directly if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

**Benjamin Thoen & Book Across the Bay Board of Directors**

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