



MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor Thomas McNamara
City Administrator Todd Cagnoni
City of Rockford Aldermen and Alderwomen

From: Martin Bloom, Sr. Project Manager-Permits and Special Events
RE: Special Events Report to Codes and Regulations
Date: July 13th, 2026

City staff has completed a preliminary review of the proposed event plan and confirms conformance with the provisions set forth in the City of Rockford – Code of Ordinances (Article XII. Special Events). Staff brings forward the following for committee and council consideration:

1. RockYard Music Fest: This new event will celebrate the spirit, energy, and identity of Rockford through a large-scale community gathering tied to America 250 and Rockford 815 celebrations

Location: Davis Park

Date: Friday August 14th, 2026 4:00P.M.-10:00P.M.,
Saturday August 15th, 2026 7:00A.M.-10:00P.M.

Alderman: Gabrielle Torina

Event Organizer: Kristen Paul/GoRockford (815) 489-1661

Attendance: Approximately 5,000 people over the 2 days

Council Action: Permission for street closures; Permission for Banner Permit; Permission for a Tent Permit; Permission for a Electrical Permit; Permission for Not for Profit Liquor Permit (2 days)

City Support: None

Cost of event: None, cost to be paid by event organizer



1. RAMP River Run: This 14th annual event is a 5k Run/walk to raise funds and awareness of RAMP and their services while promoting their mission of building an inclusive community for individuals with disabilities.

Location: 202 Market St. at Water St. –City Market Pavilion, Madison St., Rock River Rec path

Date: Saturday August 15th, 2026 5:30A.M.-12:30P.M., run begins at 6:30A.M.

Alderman: Jonathan Logemann

Event Organizer: Amanda Fair (779) 537-4862

Attendance: Approximately 400 people

Council Action: Permission for street closures; Permission for use of City Market Pavilion Space and City Electric

City Support: Rockford Police Department will provide traffic control.

Cost of event: None, cost to be paid by event organizer