

**To:** Members of the Public Services Committee

**From:** Dana L. McDaniel, City Manager

**Date:** April 6, 2022

**Initiated By:** Robert Ranc, Deputy City Manager/Chief Operating Officer  
Matt Earman, Director of Parks and Recreation  
Alison LeRoy, Director of Community Events

**Re:** Tier 3 Event Review – Emerald City Half & Quarter Marathon

## Background

On October 7, 2019, Council adopted a policy establishing guidelines to conduct an annual review of permitted events. The definition of a Tier 3 event is an event that requires multiple City services, multiple permits, and warrants at least one if not more meetings with the Permitted Events Committee. According to the adopted guidelines, all Tier 3 events will follow the following process:

New Tier 3 events will be vetted by the Permitted Events Review Committee, which may require more than one meeting. The Committee will forward its recommendation to the City Manager for further evaluation. The City Manager will then forward his or her recommendation to the Public Services Committee of Council for additional vetting and recommendation to City Council for final approval or denial.

## Summary

Staff is bringing forward the Emerald City Half & Quarter Marathon, an event produced by M3S Sports, for the Committee's consideration. The event also includes a 5K race in association with the half & quarter marathons. While not a new event, the race route has been changed in its entirety from previous years and is therefore treated as a new event. The race did not follow this process last year due to timing issues coming out of COVID protocols.

The Emerald City Half & Quarter Marathon is proposed to take place on Saturday, August 20, 2022. In the past, the race was on a Sunday. The race was first run in 2008 and was held in the northwest corner of Dublin until 2019. The race was cancelled in 2020 and was held in 2021 on a route that started and ended in Historic Dublin and ran out to Glacier Ridge Metro Park.

Staff's concerns about last year's route include the disruption of residential neighborhoods and the number of police officers needed to safely operate the race. Staff was concerned that there would not be enough Dublin Police Officers or Franklin County Deputies to fill the positions required due to recent shortages in recruiting for special duty positions. Staff worked with the race organizer to develop the proposed race route. This proposed route significantly reduces the number of police officers needed and will not significantly impact any residential neighborhoods. A detailed route map (including turn-by-turn directions) and list of road closures are attached to this memo.

One notable section of the proposed route is the area using the pedestrian tunnel immediately

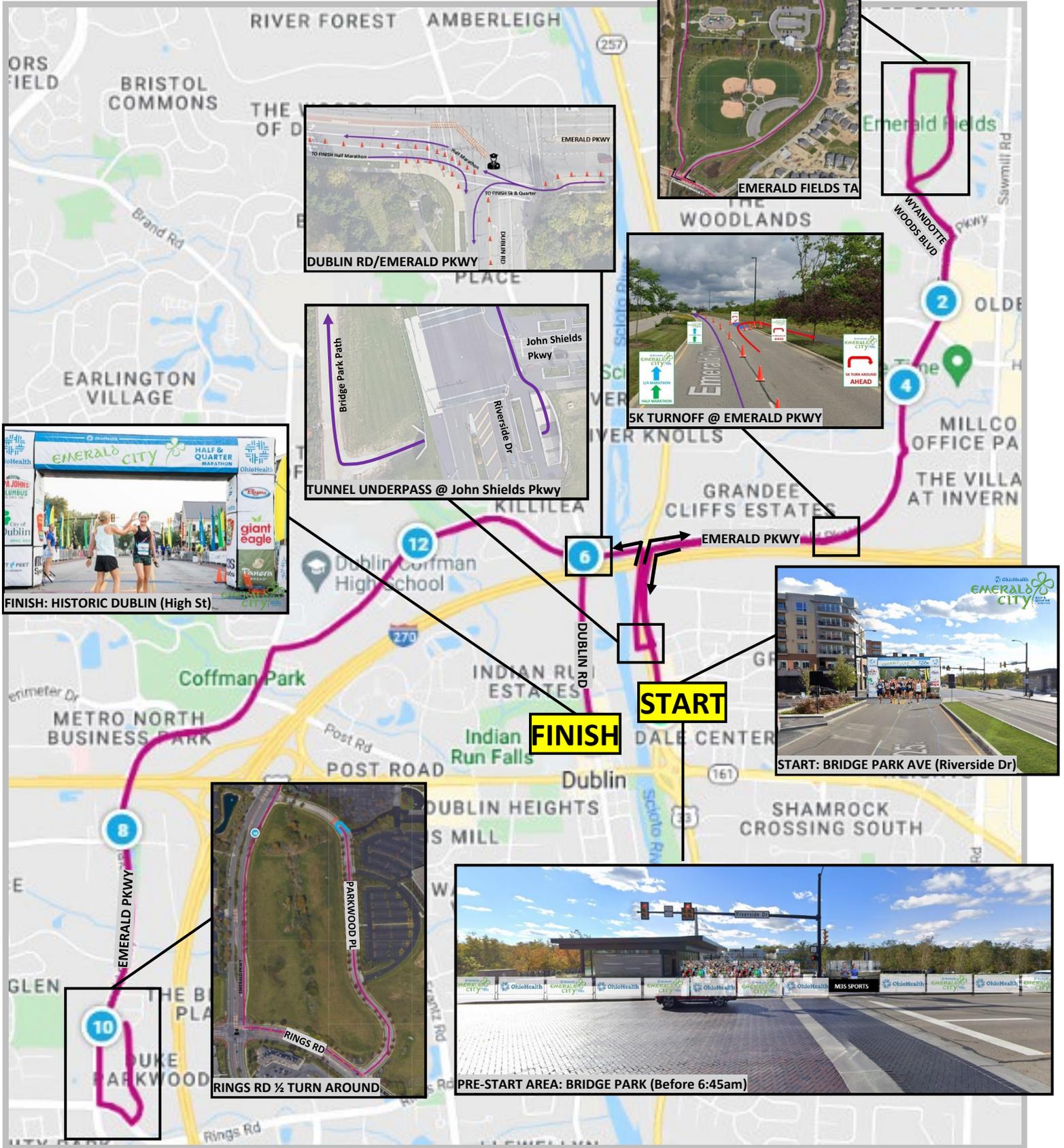
south of the intersection at Riverside Drive and John Shields Parkway to cross underneath Riverside Drive. M3S Sports is considering using a temporary ramp to place over the steps. Staff has expressed concerns regarding the incline of a potential ramp, as well as a ramp's ability to provide the necessary footing to avoid slipping. M3S Sports will be required to obtain approval from the Building Standards Division to use the temporary ramp rather than the steps.

Whether a ramp or steps are used, M3S Sports will be required to provide signage and volunteers at the location to caution participants to slow down and exercise caution. Further, participants will be required to sign a release of liability, as is standard with any similar event.

In addition to the route information, a letter of support from Visit Dublin President & CEO Scott Dring is attached to this memo for the Committee's consideration.

**Recommendation**

Staff recommends approval of the Emerald City Half & Quarter Marathon with the proposed route. Staff requests the Public Services Committee recommend approval to the full Council.





**START:** Bridge Park Ave and Riverside Dr Northbound Lane - ALL DISTANCES

### **Half Marathon Turn-by-Turn Directions**

- Go north (straight) on Riverside Dr in the northbound lanes to Emerald Pkwy
  - Go east (right turn) on Emerald Pkwy in northbound lanes to Wyandotte Woods Blvd
  - Go west (left turn) on Wyandotte Woods Blvd in southbound lane to the Emerald Fields Park trail entrance
  - Go north (right turn) on Emerald Fields Park trail and follow around the perimeter of the park to Hawthorne Ln
  - Go south (right turn) on Hawthorne Ln back to Wyandotte Woods Blvd
  - Go east (left turn) on Wyandotte Woods Blvd in the eastbound lane to Emerald Pkwy
  - Go south (right turn) on Emerald Pkwy in northbound lanes to Bright Rd round-a-bout
  - At the Bright Rd round-a-bout merge slightly left and enter the path alongside Emerald Pkwy
  - Continue on path to Riverside Dr and go south on path alongside Riverside Dr to John Shields Pkwy
  - Crossover John Shields Pkwy and take ramps down the steps and into the Riverside Dr tunnel underpass
  - Go west (right turn) at the Riverside Dr tunnel underpass to the Bridge Park trail
  - Go north (right turn) on the Bridge Park trail to Emerald Pkwy
  - Go west (left turn) on the path over the bridge alongside Emerald Pkwy to Dublin Rd
  - Crossover Dublin Rd (straight) and continue in the northbound lanes of Emerald Pkwy to Coffman Rd
  - Go south (left turn) on Emerald Pkwy in northbound lanes at Coffman Rd to Rings Rd
  - Go east (left turn) on Rings Rd in westbound lanes to Parkwood Pl
  - Go north (left turn) on Parkwood Pl to the half marathon turn around
  - At the half marathon turn around reverse the route back to Dublin Rd\*
- \*Anyone still on the course after 10:00am will be forced to the sidewalk along Emerald Pkwy to Dublin Rd
- Go south (right turn) on Dublin Rd to the **HALF MARATHON FINISH** on High St across from Library

### **Quarter Marathon Turn-by-Turn Directions**

- Go north (straight) on Riverside Dr in the northbound lanes to Emerald Pkwy
- Go east (right turn) on Emerald Pkwy in northbound lanes to Wyandotte Woods Blvd
- Go west (left turn) on Wyandotte Woods Blvd in southbound lane to the Emerald Fields Park trail entrance
- Go north (right turn) on Emerald Fields Park trail and follow around the perimeter of the park to Hawthorne Ln
- Go south (right turn) on Hawthorne Ln back to Wyandotte Woods Blvd
- Go east (left turn) on Wyandotte Woods Blvd in the eastbound lane to Emerald Pkwy
- Go south (right turn) on Emerald Pkwy in northbound lanes to Bright Rd round-a-bout
- At the Bright Rd round-a-bout merge slightly left and enter the path alongside Emerald Pkwy
- Continue on path to Riverside Dr and go south on path alongside Riverside Dr to John Shields Pkwy
- Crossover John Shields Pkwy and take ramps down the steps and into the Riverside Dr tunnel underpass
- Go west (right turn) at the Riverside Dr tunnel underpass to the Bridge Park trail
- Go north (right turn) on the Bridge Park trail to Emerald Pkwy
- Go west (left turn) on the path over the bridge alongside Emerald Pkwy to Dublin Rd
- Go south (left turn) on Dublin Rd to the **QUARTER MARATHON FINISH** on High St across from Library

### **5k Turn-by-Turn Directions**

- Go north (straight) on Riverside Dr in the northbound lanes to Emerald Pkwy to the 5k turn around and onto the path
- Continue on path to Riverside Dr and go south on path alongside Riverside Dr to John Shields Pkwy
- Crossover John Shields Pkwy and take ramps down the steps and into the Riverside Dr tunnel underpass
- Go west (right turn) at the Riverside Dr tunnel underpass to the Bridge Park trail
- Go north (right turn) on the Bridge Park trail to Emerald Pkwy
- Go west (left turn) on the path over the bridge alongside Emerald Pkwy to Dublin Rd
- Go south (left turn) on Dublin Rd to the **5K FINISH** on High St across from Library

***Emerald City Half Marathon***  
***SATURDAY August 20, 2022***

<b>STREET CLOSURES</b>	<b>FROM</b>	<b>TO</b>	<b>ROADS/LANES</b>	<b>CLOSURE TIME</b>	<b>ANTICIPATED OPENING</b>	<b>NOTES</b>
Riverside Drive	Bridge St.	Emerald Pkwy	Northbound Lanes	6:45am	7:15am	Half/Quarter/5k
Emerald Pkwy (going out)	Riverside Dr	Bright Rd	Northbound Lanes	6:45am	7:35am	Half/Quarter/5k
Emerald Pkwy (going out & back)	Bright Rd	Wyandotte Wds	Northbound Lanes	6:45am	8:15am	Half/Quarter
Wyandotte Wds	Emerald Pkwy	Trail Entrance	Whole Road	6:45am	8:00am	Half/Quarter
Hawthorne Ln	Trail Exit	Wyandotte Wds	Whole Road	6:45am	8:00am	Half/Quarter
Emerald Pkwy (coming back)	Wyandotte Wds	Bright Rd path	Northbound Lanes	6:45am	8:30am	Half/Quarter
Path along Emerald Pkwy	Bright Rd	Riverside Dr	Entire Path	7:15am	8:45am	Half/Quarter/5k
Path along Riverside Dr	Emerald Pkwy	John Shields Pkwy	Entire Path	7:00am	9:00am	Half/Quarter/5k
Emerald Pkwy	Dublin Rd	Coffman Rd	Northbound Lanes	7:15am	10:00am*	Half Marathon
Emerald Pkwy	Coffman Rd	Rings Rd	Northbound Lanes	7:15am	10:00am*	Half Marathon
Rings Rd	Emerald Pkwy	Parkwood PL	1 Westbound Lane	7:30am	10:00am*	Half Marathon
Parkwood Pl	Rings Rd	Half Turn Around	Whole Road	7:30am	10:00am	Half Marathon
Dublin Rd	Emerald Pkwy	Rock Cress Pkwy	Southbound Lanes	6:45am	10:30am	Half/Quarter/5k
<b>HARD CLOSURES</b>	Rock Cress Pkwy	W North St.	Whole Road	4am to 1pm	1:30pm	
High St. (Dublin Rd)	N. High St.	Darby St.	Whole Road	4am to 1pm	1:30pm	
W North St.	N. High St.	Darby St.	Whole Road	4am to 1pm	1:30pm	



March 16, 2022

To Whom It May Concern,

I write on behalf of Visit Dublin in support of the Emerald City Half & Quarter Marathon run by M3S Sports. This annual race attracts thousands of athletes not only from central Ohio but from across the United States. In 2021, the Emerald City race attracted more than 3,200 participants with nearly 15 percent from Dublin.

One of the greatest benefits of hosting this race in Downtown Dublin is the increase in revenue for our Hospitality Industry, including our restaurants, retail and hotels. With more than 3,000 participants (plus their guests), there is no doubt they are positively contributing to our economy. In fact, according to the Columbus Sports Commission, the 2021 Emerald City race had an estimated economic impact of more than \$485,000.

Visit Dublin markets the numerous amenities in Dublin and attracts meetings and events that positively impact our community. The Emerald City Half & Quarter Marathon certainly helps us to accomplish both of those goals. Not only do the residents of Dublin enjoy this race but those living outside of Dublin get to see and experience our city as well.

We look forward to working with M3S Sports and the City of Dublin to make this another signature event in our city while continuing to grow our healthy lifestyle profile. If I may be of further assistance, please feel free to contact me at 614-792-7666.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Dring".

Scott Dring  
President & CEO