

LACONIA CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
JANUARY 26, 2026

STAFF REPORT
AGENDA ITEM 21.D.
REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF THE 2026 EAST COAST
WATERCROSS RACE ON LAKE OPECHEE

Discussion: East Coast Watercross is looking to hold their second annual race in Laconia from June 5 to June 7, 2026. They held their first annual race in Laconia on May 30 to June 1, 2025, which was well-attended. City staff were heavily involved in the review and approval of the event, and they had no issues with the preparation leading up to or the clean-up after the event. In addition to bringing racers and fans to contribute to the local economy, this was also a great opportunity for the Laconia Little League to earn money for the program by operating the concession stand for the event.

As of tonight's meeting, the event has been reviewed and approved by the Parks and Recreation Commission for use of Opechee Park, NHDES for use of the shoreline and Lake Opechee, and has been reviewed by the Conservation Commission. It is currently being reviewed by Marine Patrol for their approval and conditions, and an application has been submitted to the Special Events Review Committee for their review and approval at their next meeting on February 4, 2026. City staff wanted to provide the City Council with an opportunity to review the proposed event and ask questions prior to final review and approval by the Special Events Review Committee.

Fiscal Impact: There is no request for funding for this event. The event brought several dozen racers and fans to the City last year which contributed to the local economy and greatly supported the Laconia Little League.

Staff Recommendation: The Planning Department recommends the City Council review the proposed event and ask questions to address any concerns they may have.

This Report Submitted By: Tyler Carmichael, Assistant Planner

Proposed Motions:

There are no proposed motions for this item.