



Agenda Abstract

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Meeting Date: Aug. 24, 2026
Department: Planning and Economic Development
Agenda Section: Consent
Public hearing: No
Date of public hearing: N/A

PRESENTER/INFORMATION CONTACT

Planning Technician Dakotah Kimbrough

ITEM TO BE CONSIDERED

Subject: Special Event Permit – Historic Hillsborough Half-Marathon and 5K 2026

Attachments:

1. Special Event Permit Application
2. Certificate of Insurance
3. Event/Emergency Management Plan

Summary:

The Historic Hillsborough Half-Marathon and 5K is an annual event that brings a large crowd to town. The event will be held on Sunday Oct. 5 from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in River Park. The race starts at 7:30 a.m. from the Farmer's Market Pavilion on Margaret Lane, goes around town, onto the Riverwalk, then out on to Dimmock's Mill Road and Ben Johnson Road, returns via Riverwalk to the speedway track for one loop, and returns to the pavilion. The event concludes with a gathering/celebration in River Park starting at noon with alcohol provided by Eno River Brewing. In addition to use of the Riverwalk, the following town-sponsored services are being requested:

- Trash rollout carts: 6 to be placed at the Farmer's Market Pavilion.
- Police Coverage: 5 Hillsborough police officers to be placed at locations identified along the route.
- Road Closure: Closure of Churton Street (from Margaret Lane to Union Street) from 7:30 a.m. to 7:50 a.m., when the last runner completes that section; and Orange Grove Road to Eno Mountain Road and Eno Mountain Road to Dimmock's Mill Road from 7:50 a.m. to 8:45 a.m., or when the last runner completes that section.
- Traffic Control: Barricades placed at entry/exit to roads affected by closures as identified above.

Financial impacts:

Low; department-level costs associated with Public Works and HPD event assistance.

Staff recommendation and comments:

Staff have the following concerns that are expected to be resolved or included as conditions before the event permit will be issued:

1. ABC permit holder (Eno River Brewing) must provide a copy of their ABC permit.
2. The applicant must obtain property use permission from all impacted property owners.
3. The applicant will obtain permission from NCDOT to close state-owned roads.
4. No paint can be used on Riverwalk, roadways, or sidewalks. Only chalk or yard signs can be used.

Action requested:

Approve, approve with conditions, or deny the permit and subsequent road closures/greenway use/sponsorship of police and trash assistance.