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## Memorandum

Date: March 15, 2023  
To: Mayor and Council Members  
From: Midori Lichtwardt, Acting City Manager <sup>DS</sup>  
Via: Brian MacDonald, Parks & Recreation Director  
Adriana Castaneda, Director of Mobility & Housing  
CC: Paula Jessup, Airport Manager  
Subject: 2023 International Aerobatics Competition

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As the result of the success of the 2022 International Aerobatics Competition, staff has been working closely with the International Aerobatics Chapter #38 (IAC #38) for the opportunity to make this year's competition even better.

After several meetings with the International Aerobatics Chapter #38 (IAC #38), it was agreed that on June 1-3, 2023, from 7am to sunset, the 2023 Aerobatic Competition will be held at the Tracy Municipal Airport.

The event will consist of:

- Event set-up on May 31, 2023,
- Official practice day on June 1, 2023
- Aerobatic competition flying on June 2-3, 2023

There are two governing bodies that regulate aerobatics competitions in the United States. The first is the International Aerobatics Club, a division of the National Aeronautic Association in the United States under the oversight of the Federation Aeronautique Internationale; Lausanne, Switzerland. This is the world governing body regulating all sport aviation competitions. The second is the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). The FAA controls the airspace and the aircraft fly-in events. Aerobatics boxes registered to aerobatics chapters are under the management of the Flight Standards District Office (FSDO) within the FAA covered under the FAA Order 8900.1 (Order). A requirement by the FAA within that Order is that before any competition, the FSDO must approve a Certificate of Waiver or Authorization for the specific operations of the Chapter during the competition detailed in the Special Provisions of Aerobatic Contest Box Operations. To ensure best practices are in place for all aerobatic competitions occurring in the United States, these two agencies, the Federation Aeronautique Internationale and the FAA, work together to provide the safest environment, both for the contestants and the spectators.

As part of this event, some aerobatic practice may take place under the conditions of IAC #38's FAA long-term Aerobatic Practice Area waiver. All flying will be organized by IAC# 38 and conducted according to the rules of the International Aerobatics Club and FAA regulations

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(subject to weather conditions). Additionally, flights may be suspended if ground wind speed exceeds 25 knots in any direction.

Both IAC #38 and City staff look forward to the opportunity to make this year's competition even more successful. Therefore, staff recommends serving once again as host for this year's competition at Tracy Municipal Airport. In preparation for hosting this event, staff will coordinate public outreach to better engage the community while providing multiple opportunities to learn more about the International Aerobatics Chapter and the competition itself. As part of the programming for this event, food vendors are being solicited to meet the needs of both the aerobatics contestants and the competition spectators. Entertainment for the spectators is being provided by the Tracy Airport Association, similar to last year's event.