



REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting: January 27, 2025

The Range - Gravel Experience – July 19, 2025

BACKGROUND:

On February 10, 2020 a presentation was made to Council for The Range, Gravel Experience <https://thegravelexperience.com/> a cycling event being hosted in Claresholm July 25, 2020, with set up July 24, 2020. The event is a 122 km route across MD of Willow Creek land, MD of Ranchlands and landowners. A partnership across the board.

February 12, 2020: the Organizer, Garth Stotts met with the MD of Willow Creek with his presentation.

July 25, 2020: The event was cancelled due to Covid-19, Routes are on Ride with GPS. Had approximately 50 riders.

July 24, 2021: Advanced reservations for Camping at Centennial, closed May 31, 2021. 150 Riders were registered for the event. Feedback from riders included; "*...even with the smoky conditions I heard nothing but raves about the event, best gravel course and roads in Alberta.*"

November 22, 2021: received permissions from Claresholm Town Council to hold the start and finish line for the 2022 event at Centennial Campground. Additional permission for \$5 shower, beer garden, and advanced reservations of Camping spots to be held until May 31, 2022

July 24, 2022: 28 Volunteers and approximately 250 registrants participated. The Town of Claresholm set out the signs and barricades the day before off to the side to ensure participants parked in the correct area and residents were aware of the event. The Town provided 5 tables and 10 chairs and pylons for the event.

July 22, 2023: 300 participants were registered, approximately 250 participated in highs of 36 degree weather.

July 20, 2024: 400 participants were registered, over 250 participated in the event.

DESCRIPTION: The Range Gravel Experience July 19, 2025

The event has been expanded from the initial 250 registration spots to 500 for 2025

1. Garth Stotts, event organizer has requested bylaw enforcement to assist at 8th street and 520 between 9-9:30 a.m. for the neutral roll out of riders.
2. Garth Stotts has also requested the use of Centennial Park Campground to stage the Start and Finish lines for the event. Riders will finish coming from the North, the same as 2024
3. Shower use with a fee (\$5) has been requested for after riders are finished the course (these would be in the afternoon, evening of the event). To be coordinated with Campground Attendant.
4. Reservation of Campsites for the event up until May 31, 2025 (similar to past years) has been requested. After that time participants of the event will be first come, first serve (the same as other campers).
5. Reservation of 8 treed Campsites sites 4-11 for volunteers.
6. Request of barricades, no parking signs, 4 tables and 10 chairs and pylons for the event.
7. Request that the Claresholm Skate Park Association be allowed to hold a Beer Gardens from 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in Centennial Park.

PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS:

Moved by Councillor _____ to allow bylaw enforcement to assist the Range Gravel Experience roll-out from 9-9:30 a.m. at 8th and Highway 520.

Moved by Councillor _____ to stage the Range Gravel Experience at Centennial Park Campground.

Moved by Councillor _____ to provide showers for the Range Gravel Experience riders at the Centennial Park campground for a \$5 fee.

Moved by Councillor _____ to reserve 8 treed sites for volunteers and to reserve Campsites for the Range Gravel Experience event up until May 31, 2025.

Moved by Councillor _____ to permit the Claresholm Skate Park Association to host a Beer Gardens in the park from 12 p.m. - 8 p.m. and for the town to provide tables and chairs, with the understanding that coordination of tables and chairs will not be reliant on Public Works staff on the weekend.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1.) The Range Info Package 2025

APPLICABLE LEGISLATION:

- 1.)

PREPARED BY: Denise Spencer, Recreation Manager

APPROVED BY: Abe Tinney, CAO

DATE: January 21, 2025
