STAFF REPORT

City of Dripping Springs

PO Box 384

511 Mercer Street

Dripping Springs, TX 78620

Submitted By: Johnna Krantz, Community Events Coordinator

Committee Meeting Date: February 9, 2026

Agenda Item Wording: **Discuss and consider a recommendation to City Council for temporary closure of portions of Mercer Street, Wallace Street, Bluff Street, College Street, San Marcos Street, and Old Fitzhugh Road from April 23 to April 26, 2026 for the 2026 Founders Day Festival.**

Agenda Item Requestor: Johnna Krantz, Community Events Coordinator

Summary/Background: The annual Founders Day Festival is scheduled for April 24-26, 2026. The overall festival footprint will be shifting so that; Carnival will take place entirely on DSISD property at 510 Mercer Street and 300 Sportsplex Drive, and; there will be no vendor booths down the center of Mercer Street, and; the Founders Day Parade on Friday, April 24 will follow a new route on foot through downtown City streets only, does not include access to US 290, and does not require an Agreement for Lane Closure with TxDOT.

The 2026 Traffic Control Plan has been prepared to promote public safety in downtown Dripping Springs during the annual Founders Day Festival, and is based on previously successful plans utilized by the City for this event. Road Closure will begin at 5pm on Thursday, April 23 on Mercer Street from Bluff to US 290. On Friday, April 24 at 12pm the City will close Mercer Street and Wallace Street from Bluff to RR12; Bluff Street, College Street, and San Marcos Street from US 290 to Mercer Street; and Old Fitzhugh Road will be closed to through traffic. All roads will reopen after the conclusion of the event on Sunday, April 26, 2026 once Emergency Management deems it safe to do so.

In 2026, additional traffic barricades will be stationed at the east intersection of Mercer Street and US 290; traffic barricades and additional fencing will be placed around the new carnival area at DSISD; and barricades surrounding the Stephenson Building construction area will be reinforced.

Staff Recommendation: Review the festival maps in closed session and approve a recommendation to City Council for the 2026 Traffic Control Plan.

Next Steps/Schedule:

1. Staff will take the 2026 Engineered Traffic Control to City Council with the Founders Day Committee's recommendation.
2. Once approved, the 2026 Traffic Control Plan will be shared with DSISD, per facility use agreement.