



2024 TRAFFIC CONTROL, SAFETY AND SECURITY PLAN
DRIPPING SPRINGS, TEXAS
APRIL 26-28, 2024

SCOPE:

This Traffic Control Plan (TCP) has been prepared to promote safety and convenience. The City will temporarily close Mercer Street during the annual Founders Day celebration April 26-28, 2024. Other City streets will also be temporarily closed during the celebration and this TCP includes those streets as well (Location Map attached).

This plan is based on the City's prior successful experience with traffic control during the Founders Day celebration in addition to making suggested revisions at the recommendation of the Department of Homeland Security. The celebration includes vendors and booths, a parade through the downtown area, and carnival rides. The closure of Mercer and other downtown streets allows for the parade and for attendees to move safely and visit booths.

In addition to this TCP, a traffic enforcement plan will also be implemented with the support of the Hays County Sheriff's office. Officers are to be placed at Sports Park Drive and Mighty Tiger to clear traffic during closure - one is to be available if needed for RR 12 signal. The TCP will not be implemented prior to 24 hours before the event. The TCP components will be removed, and streets will be reopened no later than 24 hours after the event.

TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURES (LAYOUT ATTACHED):

West Mercer from Bluff to US 290 (closed to thru traffic 5PM on Thursday)
 West Mercer from Bluff to RR12 (closed 12 Noon on Friday)
 Old Fitzhugh from RR12 to Mercer (closed to thru traffic 12 Noon on Friday)
 Wallace from San Marcos to Bluff (closed 6 AM on Friday)
 Wallace from RR12 to San Marcos (closed 12 Noon Friday)
 Bluff, College, and San Marcos from US 290 to Mercer (closed 12 Noon Friday)

TEMPORARY LANE CLOSURE FOR PARADE (LAYOUT ATTACHED):

Westbound lane closure of US 290 from San Marcos to Sportsplex Drive (April 26, 2024 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.)

STANDARD DETAILS (REFER TO):

TXDOT BC (1) – 21 through BC (12) - 21

SPECIFICATIONS FOR STREET CLOSURES:

The following are based on the posted speed limit of 45 MPH on RR12 and 30 MPH on other affected streets (Bluff, College, San Marcos and Mercer):

Min Taper Length = 540 feet for RR12 and US 290 (except as shown on plans)
= 180 feet for other streets

Min Spacing of Devices = 90-110 feet on tangent and 45 feet on taper for RR12 and US 290
= 60-75 feet on tangent and 30 feet on taper for other streets

Min Spacing of Signs = 320 feet for RR12 and US 290
= 120 feet for other streets

Size of Signs = 48" x 48"

Barricades = Type III

Prepared by the City Engineer:



Chad Gilpin, P.E.

Date



2024 TRAFFIC CONTROL, SAFETY AND SECURITY PLAN

Street Closures

This plan for street closure is designed to maintain safety for the interior area of downtown where Founders Day is located. More specifically, it is designed to prevent unauthorized vehicles from entering the Festival and to maintain orderly entrances and exits for participants.

West Mercer at Bluff Street will be closed at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 25, 2024. Wallace from San Marcos to Bluff will be closed at 6:00 a.m. on Friday, April 26, 2024. East Mercer, Wallace, Bluff, San Marcos, and College Streets will be closed at 12:00 noon on Friday April 26, 2024. All streets will re-open to the general public on Sunday, April 28, 2024 when it is safe to do so.

The Founders Day Commission has entered into a Towing Agreement with Drippin' Towin' Services to tow unauthorized vehicles that violate the Street Closure Rules. Such rules have been published in the local newspapers. Signs indicating Street Closures will be posted no less than 48 hours in advance of the Festival. To help avoid accidents during the parade, rules will be provided to participants and orange cones will be used. The rules are found in a later section of this plan.

The Commission has notified the North Hays County Fire Rescue and San Marcos Hays County EMS of the Festival operations. Both entities will be on site throughout the Festival. The Commission has hired deputy sheriffs from Hay County Sheriff's Department to assist with the Festival. The hours of their patrol are included herein.

Ranch Road 12 and Mercer Street

This intersection will be closed to the public by the use of road barricades with road closure and detour signs. The barricades will be manned by security personnel to allow entrance and egress. This intersection will be used for the following:

1. Headquarters for the EMS and the Sheriff's department.
2. To allow for an ingress and egress for cooks and vendors. Specifically:
 - a. To allow cooks located on Mercer St., San Marcos St., in the Wells Fargo Bank parking lot and north of the bank drive-through to exit no later than 4:30 p.m. on Friday after set-up.
 - b. To allow vendors to enter Saturday morning from 6:00 - 9:00 a.m.
3. To allow vendors to leave on Sunday when it is safe to do so.
4. Allow cooks who must leave early to exit on Sunday between 6:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.

No other vehicles will be allowed to use this intersection except an emergency vehicle.

Ranch Road 12 and Wallace

This intersection will be closed to the public by the use of Type III Road Barricades and Road Closed signs. The barricades will be manned by security personnel to allow entrance and egress. This intersection will be used for the following:

1. To allow an entrance and egress for cooks on Friday afternoon. Specifically:
 - a. To allow cooks located on Wallace St. east of San Marcos St., and south of the Wells Fargo Bank drive-through area to exit no later than 5:30 p.m. on Friday.
2. To allow cooks to leave on Sunday when all clear is given by the Hays County Sheriff.

San Marcos and Wallace (closed at US 290):

This intersection will be closed to the public by the use of road barricades with road closure and detour signs. The barricades will be manned by security personnel to allow entrance and egress. Portable toilets will also be placed at this intersection and used to limit traffic. This intersection will be used for the following:

1. To allow an entrance for cooks on Friday afternoon for set up. Specifically:
 - a. To allow cooks to enter no earlier than as allowed in at the direction of the Cook Off Club.
 - b. Cooks must present an "Entrance Form" to the attendant to be admitted.
 - c. The intersection will close at 4:00 p.m., or after the last cook enters, and remain closed until the Hays County Sheriff's department deems it is safe to open.
2. To allow an entrance for cooks on Sunday afternoon for breakdown, when Founder's Day officials and Hays County Sheriff's officers determine it is safe to do so.

Shell's drive-thru:

Portable toilets/trash roll-offs will be used as barricade here.

College and Wallace (closed at US 290):

This intersection will be closed to the public by the use of road barricades with road closure sign and detour signs. The barricades will be manned by security personnel to allow entrance and egress. Roll-off trash containers, portable toilets, and a large trailer occupied by a food vendor will also be placed at this intersection and used to limit traffic. This intersection will be used for the following:

1. To allow an entrance for vendors on Saturday. Specifically:
 - a. To allow vendors to enter from 6:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
 - b. Vendors must present an "Entrance Form" to the attendant to be admitted.
 - c. All vendor vehicles must be out of the downtown area after unloading by 9:00 a.m.
2. To allow an entrance for vendors on Saturday

Wallace and Bluff (closed at US 290):

This intersection will be closed to the public by the use of road barricades with road closure, do not enter and one way signage. The barricades will be manned by security personnel to allow entrance and egress. The intersection is scheduled to be blocked on Friday at 12:00 noon and will not re-open until the festival ends on Sunday evening at which time the Hays County Sheriff's deems that it is safe to do so.

Mercer and Bluff:

This intersection will be closed to the public by the use of road barricades with road closure signs. The barricades will be manned by security personnel to allow entrance and egress. This intersection will be used for the following:

1. To allow an exit for vendors on Saturday morning. Specifically:
 - a. To allow vendors to exit between 6:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m.
2. To allow an egress for all vendors on Sunday.
3. To allow Garnett Propane trucks to enter and exit.

Old Fitzhugh Road and Mercer Street: This intersection will be closed to the public by the use of road barricades with road closure signs. The barricades will be manned by security personnel to allow entrance and egress. This intersection will be used for the following:

1. To allow an entrance for food vendors and cooks on Friday from 12:01 p.m. until 3:00 p.m.
2. To allow an entrance for vendors on Friday from 3:00 p.m. until 4:30 p.m.

Old Fitzhugh Road and RR12: This intersection will remain open at all times. This intersection shall be marked with “Road Closed to Through Traffic” signs. Signage to be placed such that all turning movements to and from RR12 are maintained.

DEPUTY PATROL SCHEDULE

We will contract with the Hays County Sherriff’s office and Spears Safeguard, LLC to provide security. Deputies and Spears Safeguard Security Officers will be present from when the streets close on April 26, 2024 at 12:00 pm until the streets re-open to the public on April 28, 2024 once deemed safe by the Hays County Sheriffs.

PARADE SAFETY

The Commission has bike racks to be used along the parade route to keep crowds from moving in to the parade route. Parade rules have also been adopted:

- Use of Alcoholic Beverages is strictly prohibited.
- Non-parade vehicles are not allowed in the staging area. The staging area consists of the old Walnut Springs Elementary School parking areas and roadways, and the DSISD Administrative campus parking areas and driveways. Participants may be dropped off at the driveway entrances to the old Walnut Springs Elementary School campus on Sportsplex Drive and walk to their designated staging area.
- Parade vehicles must enter the staging area they are assigned to at the parade safety meeting. Please observe the parade volunteer’s instructions and directions.
- Only those vehicles with an official entry card will be allowed to enter the staging area. Those not holding an official entry card will not be able to participate.
- Entry cards will be provided at a mandatory parade pre-meeting held on Thursday, April 11, 2024 at 6:30 pm at [Dripping Springs Ranch Park](#):
 - Every approved parade participant must send an adult representative to the pre-parade meeting.

- Those entries that have been approved, but do not attend the pre-parade meeting will not be allowed to participate.
 - There will be no refunds for parade entries that have been approved and do not attend the pre-parade meeting.
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- Driving or parking vehicles on any grassy areas of the campus is absolutely prohibited.
 - Staging will begin at 4:30pm and vehicles will be allowed to enter only until 6:00 pm.
 - Once arriving in the staging area, your group may join the line up in the designated group areas, “A”, “B”, or “C”, at your designated spot. Please observe the parade volunteer’s instructions and directions.
 - You must turn in the “Parade Participant Card” that you received at the mandatory Parade safety meeting upon arrival. Completion of this card is required so that the Master of Ceremony may properly introduce your group.
 - If your entry includes animals, you are expected to have a waste detail walking immediately behind your group with the appropriate shovels and buckets. If you do not have the appropriate clean-up detail, entry in the parade will be denied.
 - If your entry includes animals, you are expected to maintain control of your animal at all times. Riders not exhibiting control will be removed from the parade for their own and spectator safety.
 - If your group will be throwing candy, you must have an adult walker on each side and behind the float or vehicle to ensure spectators or children do not reach near or under the vehicles. Candy must be thrown underhand and at the feet of the spectators. Any group throwing overhand or directly at a spectator will be asked to stop and will not be invited to participate in subsequent parades.
 - If your group would like to throw any items other than candy, it must be approved by a parade official at the pre-parade meeting.
 - Follow the parade route and follow the instructions and directions of the parade route. Do not ask to leave the parade route early.
 - If emergency vehicles need to leave the parade suddenly to answer an emergency, please get out of the way to facilitate their departure.
 - Participants are not allowed to get on or off your float or vehicle while it is in motion or anywhere on the parade route.
 - Do not allow participants to start dismantling your float until the float has returned to the staging area and is safely parked.