



COUNCIL ACTION SUMMARY SHEET

MEETING DATE: October 26, 2026

TOPIC: Approval of Special Event: Orion Lighted Christmas Parade

BACKGROUND BRIEF:

The 31st Annual Orion Lighted Christmas Parade is a premier Lake Orion tradition and a vital community engagement initiative that serves as Lake Orion's formal launch of the holiday season. Scheduled for Saturday, December 5, 2026, from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM, the event draws thousands of regional spectators to the downtown district.

To authorize the logistically complex event, Bill Kokenos of the Orion Area Parade Group has submitted the Special Event Permit Application. The proposed procession will follow its traditional route, deploying from Blanche Sims Elementary School and concluding at the old Lake Orion School Administration Building. Execution of the parade relies heavily on a dedicated network of community volunteers and corporate sponsors who coordinate the illuminated themed floats, musical ensembles, and live choreography, culminating in the highly anticipated appearance of Santa Claus.

Ultimately, the parade functions as a powerful tool for civic pride and cross-sector collaboration. By bringing together regional schools, non-profit entities, public organizations, and local business owners, the event successfully preserves Lake Orion's distinct small-town identity while generating immediate economic benefits for downtown merchants.

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

To adopt Resolution No. 2026-038 approving the "Orion Lighted Christmas Parade" Special Event Permit and the License Agreement between the Village of Lake Orion and the Orion Area Parade Group represented by Bill Kokenos, for the event to be held on December 5, 2026, and to authorize the Village Council President and Village Clerk to execute the agreement on behalf of the Village.