



Charter Township of Orion

3365 Gregory Rd., Lake Orion MI 48359
www.oriontownship.org

Fire Department

Phone: (248) 391-0304, ext. 2000
Fax: (248) 309-6993

To: Lake Orion Village Council
Lake Orion Village Manager
From: Jeff Williams, Fire Marshal
Re: 2026 Lions Jubilee
Date: October 28, 2025

The Orion Township Fire Department has completed its review of the 2026 Lake Orion Lions Jubilee for the limited purpose of compliance with Charter Township of Orion Ordinances, Michigan Building Code, and all applicable Fire Codes.

Based upon the application and documentation provided, the Fire Department has the following recommendation:

Approved
Approved with Comments (See below)
X Not approved with Comments

Comments:

Over the past several years, the Village has experienced a tremendous amount of growth with additional businesses, residences, and visitors within the Downtown area. With this growth, the Fire Department has responded to several emergency situations, including building and structure fires. These types of fire emergencies in an historic Downtown setting, lead to multiple agencies from surrounding communities responding to the Downtown area, filling Village streets with firefighters and apparatus attempting to extinguish the fire before it spreads to nearby structures.

When events like the Jubilee are held in the Downtown area, it creates roadblocks and obstacles that place both life safety and properties at higher risk. To reduce these risks, our fire staff have critiqued and modified ride locations in the past. These past changes opened additional space for our apparatus but did not alleviate buildings and properties from being obstructed by ride locations. This was made evident by the fire that occurred on January 14, 2022, located at 35 North Broadway Street. As seen on page 3 images 2, 3, and 4, the fire department had two ladder trucks operating this fire from North Broadway Street. By having these trucks in their specific locations, it allowed our department to save and reduce exposure to the adjacent properties. If this fire event were to occur while the Jubilee event was taking place, neither of the apparatus would have been able to access these locations. This type of scenario would have increased the probability of fire exposure, damage, and risk of life safety if occupants were inside the home when the fire occurred.

With this, the Orion Township Fire Department has reviewed the proposed documentation and will be recommending **denial** of the Lions Jubilee to take place in the Downtown area at any time, in its current set-up. Please understand that this non-approval is for this event only and will not be reflected for any

other existing event held within the Village. Our department has worked diligently over the past several years with event coordinators to ensure all other events, such as the flower fair, Golling Car Show and Dragon on the Lake, create no additional life safety risks and obstructions to building and properties.

It must be understood that life safety, property conservation, and supporting a thriving downtown area will always be the Fire Department's highest priorities. Our goal is to ensure Village residents, business owners, and patrons of these events have the same understanding and can enjoy these events knowing that safety is always accounted for.

If there are any questions, the Fire Department may be reached at 248-391-0304 ext. 2004.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Williams

Jeff Williams, Fire Marshal
Orion Township Fire Department

Attachments

IMAGE 1

Location: Infront of 35 North Broadway

Description: Jubilee Event - Ride location obstructing access to all buildings located on the left side.



IMAGES 2,3,4

Date: January 14, 2022

Location: 35 North Broadway – Structure Fire

Description: Location of white Ford F150 is the exact location of rides when the Jubilee event is taking place.



IMAGE 3

Description: Note the amount of access required for this apparatus to operate. If this area was used for a ride location the ladder truck would not be able to access buildings or properties.



IMAGE 4

Description: Note all fire damage was confined to the structure it originated in (35 N. Broadway). No fire exposure was noted on either of the adjacent properties. This was due to the location of each of the ladder trucks and fire staff that worked this fire.



IMAGE 5

Description: Lions Jubilee Event Location Map highlighting obstructed building access



IMAGE 6

Location: East Side of Hanson’s Running Shop to Nutz About Chocolate

Description: Note the overhead utilities located on the East side of the entire block. If a fire were to occur in one of these occupancies, the overhead utilities may not allow our fire personal and apparatus to access the buildings from the East side.

