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**CITY OF PORT LAVACA**

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**CITY COUNCIL MEETING: APRIL 08, 2024**

**DATE:** 03/25/2024

**TO:** JODY WEAVER, INTERIM CITY MANAGER  
HONORABLE MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS

**FROM:** TANIA FRENCH, EVENTS COORDINATOR

**SUBJECT:** JUNETEENTH PARADE

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This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Port Lavaca Juneteenth event. To honor this occasion and commemorate this significant milestone in our community's history, the Juneteenth committee is striving to align activities with this year's theme: "50 Years Standing Strong: Celebrating Our Past, Present, and Future."

With this goal in mind, the Juneteenth committee proposes integrating George Adams Park, an integral component of our heritage, into this year's celebrations. Our aim is to honor our heritage, acknowledge our progress, and envision a future filled with promise and possibility and the committee suggests beginning Sunday, June 16th festivities at George Adams Park followed by a parade before concluding at Bayfront Peninsula Park.

The proposed parade holds particular significance as it serves as a symbolic representation of honoring history while embracing the future.

The main highlights of the Sunday events include:

- 1) **Commencement at George Adams Park:** The day will begin with a gathering at George Adams Park, where speakers will reflect on the historical significance of Juneteenth and offer prayers for continued unity and progress in our community.
- 2) **Parade Procession:** Following the opening ceremonies at George Adams Park, there will be a parade procession to Bayfront Peninsula Park. Metaphorically, this parade will act as a beacon, illuminating the path forward and laying the foundation for future generations to follow embodying our commitment to progress and continuity. We anticipate it will be a memorable experience.
- 3) **Culmination at Bayfront Peninsula Park:** The celebration will culminate at Bayfront Peninsula Park, where attendees will have the opportunity to partake in the annual fish

fry and attend a church service. These activities will provide a meaningful conclusion to the weekend's festivities, fostering fellowship and camaraderie among all attendees.

In light of these plans, the committee respectfully requests approval from the Port Lavaca City Council for the following:

- Permission to conduct the parade procession from George Adams Park to Bayfront Peninsula Park.
- Assistance with traffic control measures to ensure the safety and smooth flow of the parade route.

By weaving together elements of remembrance, celebration, and anticipation, we'll create a Juneteenth event that honors our past, celebrates our present, and embraces our future, while also promoting inclusivity and community engagement within Port Lavaca.