



MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Rich Olson, City Manager
Angela Cole, Assistant City Manager

Date: July 22, 2019

Re: Consideration – Street Closing Requests Involving State Roadways within Municipal Corporate Limits – National Night Out

BACKGROUND:

As of July 31, 2015, North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) established guidelines concerning authorization to close a State roadway so as to conduct a special event. The policy recognizes that counties and municipalities have the statutory authority to hold events that they sponsor or are responsible for, and thereby, can adopt a local ordinance declaring the purpose, date and duration for the closing of a local roadway or a State roadway within the local jurisdiction. This type of ordinance does not require a public hearing. Advance notice and a copy of the adopted ordinance must be provided to the Division office.

ANALYSIS:

On May 28, 2019, the City Manager's Office received internal communication from the Police Department applying for a City of Elizabeth City Special Event Permit (SEP). Included in the application for SEP is additional request for street closing of local and State-controlled roadways. The Department requests to close the following streets, or portions thereof, beginning 4:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 6, 2019:

- E Ehringhaus Street (US Business Highway 17) from the S McMorrine Street intersection, eastward to the S Water Street (SR 34/1164) right-of-way
- S Water Street/Southern Avenue (SR 34/1164) – Shephard Street intersection westward along Shephard Street to the Museum of the Albemarle egress driveway

- S Water Street (SR 34/1164) from the Shephard Street intersection, north to the E Church Street intersection

All roadways and public spaces are planned to be cleaned of festival liter and reopened by 11:00 p.m. Tuesday, August 6, 2019.

Staff sent the requisite advance notice to NCDOT. NCDOT does not object to the street closing schedule as proposed. City personnel and regional agencies will be coordinating emergency response, alternative vehicular traffic routes, and safe pedestrian activity for the duration of the event.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

By motion, adopt the ordinance declaring street closings for the 2019 National Night Out event.



ORDINANCE #2019-07-01

AN ORDINANCE DECLARING A ROAD CLOSURE FOR THE ANNUAL NATIONAL NIGHT OUT EVENT

WHEREAS, the City Council of Elizabeth City acknowledges a long tradition of providing an annual National Night Out for the pleasure of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of Elizabeth City acknowledges its citizens realize a financial and public safety benefit from holding the annual National Night Out event; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of Elizabeth City acknowledges the festival event requires approximately three hours to install signing and traffic control, amusement and entertainment structures and equipment, food and other retail vendors, and other attractions, and also requires approximately two (2) hours for removing same, and litter;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the City Council of Elizabeth City pursuant to the authority granted by G.S. 20-169 that they do hereby declare a temporary road closure during the day(s) and times set forth below on the following described portion of a State Highway System route:

Date:	Tuesday, August 6, 2019
Time Duration:	4:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m.
Route Description:	E Ehringhaus Street (US Business Highway 17) from the S McMorrine Street intersection, eastward to the S Water Street (SR 34/1164) right-of-way S Water Street/Southern Avenue (SR 34/1164) – Shepard Street intersection westward along Shepard Street to the Museum of the Albemarle egress driveway S Water Street (SR 34/1164) from the Shepard Street intersection, north to the E Church Street intersection

This ordinance to become effective when signs are erected giving notice of the limits and times of the event, and implementation of adequate traffic control to guide through vehicles around the event site.

SECTION I. EFFECTIVE DATE: This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

SECTION II. SEVERABILITY CLAUSE: If any section, or part of provision of this Ordinance is declared unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, then it is expressly provided and it is the intention of the City Council of the City of Elizabeth City in passing this Ordinance that its parts shall be severable and all other parts of this Ordinance shall not be affected thereby and they shall remain in full force and effect.

READ, CONSIDERED, AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Elizabeth City, North Carolina, during which a quorum was present, held on the 22nd day of July 2019.

Bettie J. Parker
Mayor

Attest:

April D. Onley
City Clerk