

Mayor
John Murray
Mayor Pro Term
Mary Hornsby
Council Members
John Plourde
Willard Rodarmel
William Siegel



**Redevelopment
Division**

119 Fox Street
Lemoore ♦ CA 93245
Phone (559) 924-6701
FAX (559) 924-9003

Staff Report

ITEM 6

To: Lemoore City Council
From: Brooke Austin, Housing Specialist and
Judy Holwell, Redevelopment Project Manager
Date: December 16, 2009
Subject: Parades within City Limits – Equestrian Entries

Discussion

As was discussed at the last meeting, the Chamber of Commerce holds two parades in the City each year, the Christmas and Fourth of July Parades. Per the Agreement between the Chamber and the Redevelopment Agency, parades are one type of public event the Chamber can host to provide economic development services by promoting the community. Typically these parades include entries from local service organizations, clubs, schools, etc. In addition to these parades, Lemoore High School annually holds a Homecoming Parade through Downtown. Council Member Plourde expressed concern over the dangers and inconvenience involving equestrian parade entries. The major item of concern is horses becoming unruly and causing personal injury or property damage. A secondary item of concern is the inevitable elimination of waste by the animals. This tends to provide an unpleasant experience for the parade entrants that follow the equestrian entries.

Prior to each parade, the organization requests permission to close City streets. The Council has the option to include special conditions with their approval, such as the exclusion of equestrian entries. Another option would be to ban horses from all events requiring street closure permits. The Council should decide whether they would like this to be an event based condition or a citywide policy. In addition, the policy should specify whether this includes only horses riding freely or all horses, including those that are pulling carriages, wagons, etc.

The Chamber was invited to attend Tuesday night's meeting. It was also requested that they inform any organizations that regularly participate with equestrian entries and invite them to attend as well.

Budget Impact

None.

Recommendation

That Council discuss the matter and decide whether to ban all or specific types of equestrian entries from parades and/or all events requiring street closure permits held within the City.