

**Purpose.**

The regulations contained in this section are ordained and required for the public health, safety, morals, good order, convenience and general welfare of the community. It is the intention of this section to establish reasonable limits to the demand for police, fire, sanitation, and other parish services and to maintain the great tradition of parades, walks and footraces in East Baton Rouge Parish

**Definitions.**

For the purpose of this ordinance, the following terms are defined as follows:

**Parade** is a permitted event staged during the year consisting of floats, mini floats, truck floats, bands and marching organizations.

**Float** is a vehicle with four (4) or more wheels without brakes or an engine for its own propulsion, upon which is constructed artistic designs and which carries costumed and masked riders, and is pulled by a tractor, mules or horses, or vehicle.

**Parade Organization** is a corporation (profit or non-profit) organized under the laws of the State of Louisiana, for the purpose of staging a parade and other activities associated with this activity.

**Marching club** is a non-profit corporation, organized under the laws of the State of Louisiana, for the purpose of parading in costume and on foot during an official parade.

**Truck-float** is a normal commercial semi-trailer and/or flat bed, which is decorated and carries costumed and masked riders, not to exceed sixty (60) feet in length including the truck cab, no more than ten (10) feet in overall width including all decorations and no more than fifteen (15) feet six (6) inches in height from the street level.

**Smoking prohibited.**

It shall be unlawful for any participant of a parade to smoke while riding in a float or truck parade. A "No Smoking" sign shall be securely attached and plainly visible to all occupants of a float or truck float.

**Safety precautions.**

In all parades, when applicable, the following measures shall be implemented.

- *Fire extinguishers.* Each float and each deck of a multi-deck float shall have at least one dry chemical powder extinguisher with a minimum of a 4A-40BC rating or at least two dry chemical powder extinguishers with a minimum of a 2A-10BC rating. Fire extinguishers shall be securely mounted and readily accessible. Fire extinguishers may be mounted on either the tractor or the float.
- *Ladders.* Each float or truck float shall have a sufficient amount of ladders or stairs to permit riders easy access and exit from the float or truck.

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- *Safety chains.* There shall be a sufficient number of safety chains of adequate tensile strength on all tractor hitches which shall be firmly attached to the float.
- *Safety belts.* All upper levels of a multi-deck floats shall be equipped with sufficient safety belt eye bolts, or their equivalents, securely fastened to the body or framework of the float and of enough strength to support each individual float rider.
- *Animated float.* Operators of animation shall be provided solid platforms, not below rider level, upon which to operate, together with a means of exhausting the air therefrom and such other safety requirements as may be necessary.
- *Self-propelled floats.* Self-propelled floats shall comply with state brake test provisions for an equivalent class and weight of motor vehicles and shall each have affixed thereto a current motor vehicle inspection certificate issued by the state. Self-propelled floats shall contain double the amount of fire extinguishers as provided for in subsection (1) of this section. Additionally, self-propelled floats shall comply with such safety standards and criteria established for that class of floats that may be developed and promulgated by the city. Each self-propelled float shall also have the means of being towed in case of breakdown. Each such self-propelled float shall be designed to allow the driver thereof peripheral vision of at least 180 degrees.
- *Generators.* All electrical generators utilized to provide power for floats shall be mounted on the tractor. Generators utilized to provide power for truck floats may be mounted on the truck float provided that there is adequate ventilation and sufficient separation of the generator from the riders. Fuel for generators must be stored in UL approved containers and must be adequately separated from any source of heat and from float riders.
- All liquid fueled flambeaux shall be fueled by class II combustible liquids having a flash point at or above 100°F, such as kerosene (fuel oil), mineral spirits, or similar type fuels.

Class I flammable liquids having a flashpoint below 100°F, such as gasoline or alcohol based fuels shall be prohibited.

**Drivers.**

All drivers shall possess a current valid drivers license issued by the Louisiana Department of Public Safety for the appropriate type of vehicle driven in a parade.

**Downtown Parade routes.**

Day or night parades shall form in or around (insert applicable language from BRPD / DPW proposal)

.....  
where the parade will disband at the direction of the parade marshals in conjunction with the Baton Rouge Police Department.

**St. Patrick's Parade route.** (insert language, as applicable)

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- (a) The St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee is hereby authorized to conduct annually the St. Patrick's parade beginning at (insert \_\_\_\_\_time) on Saturday immediately preceding St. Patrick's Day, or St. Patrick's Day if said day falls on a Sunday.
- (b) The route for said parade is hereby established as follows: Parade to form at the intersection of \_\_\_\_\_, to proceed \_\_\_\_\_to \_\_\_\_\_ the intersection of \_\_\_\_\_and \_\_\_\_\_; thence, in an \_\_\_\_\_ direction to etc. where the parade will disband at the direction of the parade marshals in conjunction with the Police Department.

**Southdown's Mardi Gras Parade route.** (insert language, as applicable)

**Southern University Homecoming Parade route.** (insert language, as applicable)

**Spanish Town Parade route** (insert language, as applicable)

**Alcohol Free Zone**

For Downtown Parades: The area generally bounded by North 4<sup>th</sup> Street to the west, North 6<sup>th</sup> Street to the east, Convention Street to the north and North Boulevard to the south is hereby designated as an "Alcohol Free Zone" for any parade.

**Floats (including truck floats) for All Parades**

- (a) Float sizes shall be as follows:

*For all Downtown Parades:*

A regular krewe float or truck-float shall not be more than sixty (60) feet in length, no more than twelve (12) feet in width and no more than seventeen (17) feet in height from the street level

*For Residential Area Parades (St. Patrick's Day and Southdowns):*

A regular krewe float or truck-float shall not be more than sixty in (60) feet in length, no more than twelve (12) feet in width and no more than fourteen (14) feet in height from the street level.

- (b) Each float or truck in a night parade shall be illuminated.
- (c) The combined number of floats or trucks in any parade shall not exceed ninety (90) units.
- (d) All decorations and attachments on each float or truck shall be securely fastened, with no sharp, pointed, or cornered objects on the exterior. No protruding nails shall be allowed on floats or trucks.

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- (e) Floats may be pulled by a mule, horse, tractor, or vehicle presenting a full view of the operator. The operator shall have visible access to the front and sides of the vehicle in his control.
- (f) Interior height shall be forty (40) inches from deck of float to the top of railing or safety harnesses shall be provided.
- (g) All floats shall have bead racks or hook devices for beads. The use of nails to hang beads is prohibited. Hammering of nails on floats in the assembly area is strictly prohibited..
- (h) All tires on floats and vehicles pulling floats shall be in good condition.
- (i) Each truck shall contain an approved sanitary facility sufficient to accommodate the number of riders thereon and conform to prevailing health unit requirements.
- (j) Cabs pulling trucks during a truck parade shall have no more than three (3) people including the driver in the driver compartment.
- (k) Each truck shall be equipped with such safety equipment as required by law, including, but not limited to fire extinguishers.
- (l) All taillights shall be visible on each trailer.

**Horses and mules.**

- (a) Each horse rider must present a current animal health certificate, also known as a Coggins Certificate, to the respective parade organization no less than one week (7 days) prior to the event.
- (b) Adequate spacing shall be maintained between horses during the parade.
- (c) For safety purposes horse heads shall be faced to the crowd when the parade is stopped
- (d) Saddles and bridles are required for all riders. Tack shall be in good condition allowing the rider to maintain control of the horse.
- (e) Riders are forbidden to move out of line formation for other than emergency conditions and riders are not to dismount or tie unattended horses along the parade route.
- (f) Each horse riding group and vehicle being pulled by mules or horses is required to provide, at its own expense, at least one (1) person at the rear of the riding group with a barrel type container to pick up all droppings.
- (g) Each horse will be provided and must bear a numerical banner as authorized by the parade organization. Said banner must remain in conspicuous viewing on the horse the entire duration of the parade.
- (h) Horses used by law enforcement as crowd control are exempt from these provisions.

**Marching clubs.**

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Each marching club shall be permitted to march on foot in front of or behind any float or truck parade along the designated parade route, provided they have the consent of the parading organization.

**Bands.**

A band may consist of military bands, school bands, rolling or walking jazz bands, mechanical calliopes, fife and drum corps, drum and bugle corps or controlled sound units such as those accompanying dance schools in any combination, provided they have the consent of the parading organization.

**Auxiliary vehicles.**

- (a) Each band, marching club and any other marching group in a parade shall be allowed no more than one (1) motor vehicles to follow directly behind the group in the parade. Said auxiliary vehicle shall bear the name of the group on both sides of the vehicle as identification.
- (b) Each auxiliary vehicle with a generator, shall have at least one (1) ten-pound or two (2) five-pound Underwriters listed ABC fire extinguisher(s) readily accessible.

**Attire and characterization.**

- (a) No person shall be allowed to participate in a parade if obviously intoxicated.
- (b) No participant in any capacity in any parade or marching club shall possess or have in his or her custody or control any life threatening object, any noxious substance or any liquid intended to be sprayed, poured, tossed, handed out, or otherwise distributed.
- (c) Glass, glass beverage containers:
  - (1) No glass of any description other than eyeglasses shall be permitted in a parade.
  - (2) The toasting area is exempt from this prohibition on the use of glass.
- (d) No participant in any capacity in any parade or marching club shall possess or have in his or her custody or control any "stink bomb(s)" or "stink spray(s)". For the purposes of this section, a "stink bomb" or "stink spray", regardless of its actual brand name, shall be defined as a device for the purpose of emitting an odorous substance when used.
- (e) The carrying of firearms by any parade participant is prohibited. Duly commissioned law enforcement personnel are exempted. Any other persons duly authorized and licensed to carry a firearm and is acting in an official capacity must notify the Baton Rouge Police Department with the reason for carrying such firearm and be approved by the department to carry such firearm.

**Throws.**

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- (a) It shall be prohibited for any driver of any motor vehicle to toss or hand out throws or trinkets of any kind.
- (b) No throws or trinkets of any kind shall be constructed of glass or contain sharp edges or points.
- (c) No throws or trinkets of any kind shall be tossed or handed out to the front or rear of a float or truck or other vehicle.
- (d) Discarding of debris, trash, and packaging along the route of the parade shall be prohibited.
- (e) Riders not in compliance with any of the above may be removed from the parade by the organization's designated official or a police officer.

**Unauthorized persons or vehicles.**

- (a) Any person, group or vehicle participating in a parade without proper authorization from the parading organization or who in any manner interferes with the orderly conduct of the parade shall be subject to immediate arrest. Any vehicle or animal accompanying that person may be seized and impounded by the proper law enforcement authorities.
- (b) All permitted vehicles shall display a participation card duly authorized by the parading organization.
- (c) The parading organization shall appoint a designated member to remove participants not authorized or who violate the provisions of this ordinance.

**Public safety – Parade Route.**

- (a) It shall be unlawful for any person, at any time, to place or cause to be placed any type of obstruction, including but not limited to ropes, tents, scaffolds, or barricades, which may act as an impediment to vehicular or pedestrian traffic on any right-of-way along a parade route without first securing proper permission from the Police Department.

For the purpose of this section, the right-of-way is that portion of ground dedicated to the parish for public use as a street, median, or other use and shall include that portion of ground between the paved portion of the dedicated street and the property line of the adjacent landowner. The provisions of this section shall not apply to the usage of right-of-way by law enforcement, medical or safety personnel or to any usage in compliance with applicable parish ordinances.

- (b) The unofficial presence of elevating-type vehicles, such as "cherry pickers" along the parade route is prohibited.
- (c) Ladders, scaffolding or any type of platform or portable elevating devices are prohibited on the street of any parade route between the curbs or lateral curb lines. Such devices shall also be prohibited between the curbs or lateral curb lines of any street intersecting the parade route.
- (d) Ladders shall be placed as many feet back from the curb or lateral curb line as the ladder is high.

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- (e) Fastening two (2) or more ladders together is prohibited.
- (f) Parking shall be prohibited along any parade route within the first fifteen (15) feet of the curb or as posted.
- (g) It shall be unlawful for any person to throw or spray any object at or to any participant, vehicle or animal in a parade.
- (h) Open flame heating or cooking devices shall not be permitted on public right-of-way, unless otherwise permitted for such activity.
- (i) Parade viewers are required to obey those restrictions placed on them by the presence of barricades positioned by the Baton Rouge Police Department or authorized employees of the parish. Any authorized Baton Rouge Police Department or parade official is hereby recognized as the enforcer for this section.
- (j) It shall be unlawful for any person, either viewing or participating in a parade, to have "silly string", "stink bombs", "bomb bags", "laser pointers" or "stink spray" in their possession within fifty (50) feet from any parade route one (1) hour prior to starting time, during and one (1) hour after completion of any parade.
- (k) It shall be unlawful for any person, either viewing or participating in a parade, to have "confetti canisters" which contain metallic confetti streamers or other metallic string-like substance in their possession; for the purposes of this section, a "confetti canister," regardless of its brand name, shall be defined as an device used to expel or discharge objects under pressure into the air.

**Application for permit.**

- (a) Application for parade permits shall be received by the Baton Rouge Police Department – Traffic Division between one hundred eighty days (180) and thirty days (30) each year preceding the parade
- (b) For Mardi Gras Parades - the Baton Rouge Police Department, Department of Public Works and other public agencies associated with the parade route approval, will hold an informational meeting for all interested parties of Mardi Gras/Carnival Parades prior to the start of the parade season to review all matters in connection with the staging of these events.

**Permits for a fixed date.**

- (a) Permits for this and all subsequent years shall be for the same position, route and time in the carnival parade season, except those positions, routes, dates and times that may be authorized by the police department.
- (b) If a permit is canceled for just cause, or if the holder of a permit does not parade in any year, except when a parade is canceled for reasons beyond the control of the permit holder, said permit may be canceled for that year and all subsequent years.

Such vacancy in date and time may be filled by an organization already licensed under the provisions of this chapter which may desire to transfer to such open date and time, the rule of parade seniority prevailing with approval of the office. In addition to seniority, the office, prior to making a decision, shall factor in past

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performances, popularity and financial capabilities of the applying organization to produce an acceptable parade.

**Insurance.**

(a) Each parade organization, float or truck float, shall carry a minimum limit of liability insurance of one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) per occurrence, combined single limit bodily injury and property damage with a three million dollar (\$3,000,000.00) aggregate. The Parish of East Baton Rouge, all districts and special districts of the Parish of East Baton Rouge shall be named as an additional insured to the liability policy issued to each float or truck parade organization.

A parade permit shall not be issued without receipt from the insurer or its agent of record of a bona fide certificate of insurance, which indicates that the Parish of East Baton Rouge, all districts and special districts of the Parish of East Baton Rouge are additional insured. As additional insured, the Parish of East Baton Rouge, all districts and special districts of the Parish of East Baton Rouge shall be afforded coverage to the same extent as the named insured.

(b) The Insurance company shall have an "A" or "B" rating.

(c) Each parade organization agrees to hold harmless and to indemnify the parish, all districts and special districts of the Parish of East Baton Rouge, its departments and employees for any and all damages to property and/or personal injury that results in a loss to the parish and/or its departments that may occur as a result of the sole or concurrent negligence or sole or concurrent fault on the part of the parading organization.

(d) Each vehicle in a parade shall be properly insured.

**Outdoor concessions during Parades.**

(a) Any property owner or business owner or lessee may apply to operate an outdoor concession during a parade provided they have the proper facilities which pass inspection by the Department of Public Works and, if required, by the State Department of Health.

The Director of the Department of Public Works is hereby granted full authority to make inspections and to pass upon each place as to whether they meet the requirements or not, and is hereby given authority to close any business that does not comply.

(b) All applications for such outdoor concessions shall be made at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the start of the parade. Any stands constructed and doing business without approval, permits and licenses shall be deemed inoperable by the appropriate authorities.

(c) All provisions of the Rolling Vendor or Peddler's License permit process shall be adhered to as required for the respective license request.

**Violations/penalties.**



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(a) Any organization that violates any of the provisions of this division may have its permit for the following and subsequent years revoked by the Baton Rouge Police Department with written documentation to the East Baton Rouge Parish Council showing cause for the action.

(b) Any parade participant who violates any of the provisions of this division may be punished by a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or imprisonment for a term not exceeding six (6) months or both such fine and imprisonment, within the discretion of the court.

(c) In addition, any violation of the provisions of this article shall be subject to civil administrative adjudication by the parish administrative hearing officer.

**Inspections.**

Representatives of the Baton Rouge Fire Department and the Health Department shall have the right to inspect each parade for which a permit has been issued to ascertain that the provisions of this chapter have been observed.

If any safety violations are found, the organization responsible for these violations shall correct the violations prior to a second inspection, if deemed necessary.

If these violations are not corrected by the time of the second inspection, the particular float piece of equipment, or other apparatus on which the violation occurs shall be removed from the parade.

Additionally, if at any time during the parade the fire department, police department, or health department determines that the physical or safety requirements of this chapter are not being observed, the particular float, piece of equipment or other apparatus may be removed from the parade.

**Delays due to breakdowns.**

When delays due to a mechanical breakdown or other unforeseen event occur within a parade, the following procedure shall be followed by the Police Department:

- (1) An estimate of the repair time shall be obtained from the property/equipment truck personnel;
- (2) If the estimate of repair time is greater than 30 minutes, subject to the approval of the Police Department the parade shall be re-routed;
- (3) If the breakdown is of such a nature that it is repaired or otherwise corrected prior to the last unit of the parade passing the delay location, the repaired or corrected unit shall be allowed to continue in the parade at a new location as approved by the Police Department; and
- (4) If the breakdown is not repaired or corrected prior to the last unit of the parade passing the delay, the unit shall not be allowed to continue in the parade disband and shall be timely and safely removed using the shortest cleared route.

**Prohibited parking.**

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(a) It shall be unlawful for any person or entity to park, store, leave standing or permit the parking, storing, stopping or standing of any vehicle on any private property, without proper authorization of the owner, lessee, person in control of the private property, or their agent, where signs have been posted declaring that parking is prohibited or is otherwise reserved for authorized vehicles only.

(b) Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and subject to a fine of up to five hundred dollars (\$500.00).

(c) At the request of the owner, lessee, person in control of the private property, or their agent, where signs have been posted declaring that parking is prohibited or is otherwise reserved for authorized vehicles only, the Police Department shall cause to be removed and impounded any unoccupied vehicle of whatever kind of description found to be in violation of this section.

**Animal parades.**

Insert language, as applicable from Greg Jones (Krewe of Mutts)