



Date: August 24, 2023

To: Mayor and Council

Author: Karen Loney, MA
Manager of Recreation Programs and Special Events

RE: Migration Fall Festival and Fantasy of Lights Updates

RECOMMENDED ACTION

1. That the following road closures to vehicle traffic on Saturday, October 21, 2023, for the Migration Fall Festival Parade **BE APPROVED**;
 - a. Staging area at 8 am: Wigle Avenue from Main Street to Lakeview Avenue
 - b. Parade route at 9:30 am heading north on Wigle Avenue, turning west onto Main Street East, turning south onto Division Road South, turning east onto Park Street
 - c. De-staging area to be closed based on the number of parade entries; Park Street from Division Road to 103 Park Street (Grovedale Arts & Culture Centre)
2. That the following road closures to vehicle traffic on Saturday, November 18, 2023, for the Fantasy of Lights Parade **BE APPROVED**;
 - a. Staging area 2:00 pm: Wigle Avenue from Main Street to Lakeview Avenue
 - b. Parade route at 5:00 pm: heading north on Wigle Avenue, turning west onto Main Street East, turning south onto Division Road South, turning east onto Park Street
 - c. De-staging area to be closed based on the number of parade entries; Park Street from Division Road to 103 Park Street (Grovedale Arts & Culture Centre)

BACKGROUND

Migration Fall Festival

For the 54th year, the Migration Fall Festival is hosted by the Migration Festival Committee of Council (Committee) and supported by the Recreation Programs and Special Events Manager and staff. The event will be held from Thursday, October 19, to Sunday, October 22, 2023.

Due to COVID and limited volunteers, the Migration Parade has not been hosted in the past four years. The Committee is excited to bring the tradition of the parade back to

Kingsville, and it will be held on Saturday, October 21, at 10 am. The parade theme is Fall and Harvest, with a 'shout-out' to Jack Miners Migratory Bird Sanctuary. Community members, school or service groups and businesses are encouraged to enter the parade.

Other activities that will be occurring include the following.

Thursday, October 19, 2023

- 'En Plein' Artists Around Town

Friday, October 20, 2023

- 'En Plein' Artists Around Town
- Migration Fall Festival Kick-off

Saturday, October 21, 2023

- 10 am - Migration Fall Festival Parade
- 10 am to 12 p.m. - Quick Paint Competition at Mettawas Park
- 11 am to 3 pm - Children's Activities at Lion's Park
- 12 pm to 3 pm - Pumpkin Carving with the OPP
- 11 am to 4 pm Migration Festival Fall Market
- 10 am to 12 pm Bike Tour
- Events at Jack Miner Migratory Bird Sanctuary, Fish Pond

Sunday, October 22, 2023

- Breakfast, Car Show at Jack Miner Migratory Bird Sanctuary
- 1 pm to 4 pm Art Show & Sale Grovedale
- 1 pm to 3 pm Bike Tour

Registration for the parade, market and further details can be found at www.migrationfestival.ca

Fantasy of Lights

For 30 years, the Fantasy of Lights Christmas Festival has been a community event that has included celebrating the season and lighting up the Town. The Fantasy of Lights Committee of Council (Committee) supports this event while working with the Recreation Programs and Special Events manager and staff.

The Fantasy of Lights parade is one of the signature events for children and adults of all ages as they watch Santa arrive in Kingsville. The 2023 Fantasy of Lights Parade is scheduled for Saturday, November 18· starting at 5:00 pm.

The theme of the parade for 2023 is Holiday Magic. Following the parade, everyone is invited to Lakeside Park to watch the Lighting of the Lights Ceremony, free hot chocolate and cookies, live music, and a visit from Santa and Mrs. Clause. The Fantasy of Lights season will continue with the following events.

November 24 – December 23 (Weekends)

- Fantasy Express Train Rides
- Hot Chocolate, Cookies, Music

December 1 - 25

- Light Up the Town - Decorate your house or business

December 2 and 3

- Christmas Artisan Market
- Music & Bonfires

December 5

- Paws & Claus - Bring your four-legged friends for a picture with Santa

December 8, 15, and 22

- Free Christmas Concerts by Kingsville Music Society

December 10

- Crafts with Santa by the Optimist Club of Kingsville

December 31 (New Year's Eve at the Kingsville Arena)

- Closing of Fantasy of Lights
- Free Skating
- Fireworks

Registration for the parade, market and further details can be found at www.fantasyoflights.ca.

DISCUSSION

After the 2022 Fantasy of Lights Parade, an internal de-brief meeting occurred to review what went well and areas for improvements. Kingsville OPP identified that the corner of Jasperson Street and Main Street is one of the busiest corners in Kingsville and is increasingly challenging to manage during a parade. This is consistent with the Comprehensive Transportation Master Plan which also noted the challenges at this intersection. The area has several large or active businesses with multiple entrances and exits which makes it challenging to ensure cars are not entering the parade route when they exit the businesses. One business experienced the challenge that once the parade started their customers had to wait up to 40 minutes to be able to exit their parking lot.

When it was determined that there would be an additional parade in 2023, a meeting was held with Kingsville Fire and Rescue Services and Public Works to identify how to mitigate parade route safety concerns, minimize disruptions to local businesses and ease traffic congestion. From this meeting, it was proposed to use Wigle Avenue as the

staging area and start the parade route for the Migration Fall Festival and Fantasy of Lights Parade (see attached).

To confirm this recommendation, a Special Events and Review Team (SERT) meeting was held where input from Kingsville OPP, Windsor/Essex EMS, Kingsville Fire and Rescue and multiple internal departments. It was collectively agreed that the 2023 parade route for both events should begin at Wigle Avenue, heading north to turn West on Main Street, the turn south on Division Road South, with the official end of the Parade at the intersection of Herrington Road at Lakeside Park. De-staging for the parade will continue to occur either on Lansdowne Avenue, the Grovedale Arts and Culture Centre, or, with permission, at one of the businesses on Park Street.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

There are no financial considerations outside of the 2023 budget.

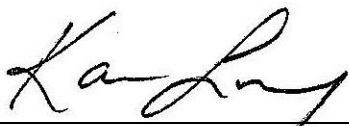
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

All events strive to abide by the single-use plastic policy implemented by the Town.

CONSULTATIONS

- SERT Committee – including OPP, EMS, Fire, Public Works, and internal departments
- Fantasy of Lights Committee
- Migration Festival Committee
- Shelby Wye, Coordinator of Programs and Special Events
- SMT

PREPARED BY:



Karen Loney, MA
Manager of Recreation Programs and Special Events

REVIEWED BY:



Richard J.H. Wyma CSLA
Director of Growth and Development