

DOWNTOWN  
**RACINE**  
CORPORATION

Jan. 25, 2024

Mayor Corey Mason  
City Hall - 730 Washington Avenue  
Racine, WI 53403

Dear Mayor Mason and Common Council:

Dear Mayor,

I am writing on behalf of the Downtown Racine Corporation to discuss the upcoming St. Patrick's Day Parade, a cherished annual event in our community. We are planning to hold this year's parade on Saturday, March 16th, from 12:00 PM to 12:45 PM in downtown Racine. For this to proceed smoothly, we kindly seek your approval and support.

Due to the closure of the State Street Bridge, we propose an alternative route for the parade, which necessitates temporary street closures. The proposed route is as follows: beginning at the intersection of State and Ontario, the parade will turn left onto State Street, proceed to Erie Street, and then continue north. From Erie, the parade will turn right onto Dodge Street (heading east), followed by a right turn onto Main Street (heading south), crossing the bridge to our regular starting point. The procession will continue down Main Street to 6th Street, and then head west on 6th Street, concluding at City Hall.

Currently, Erie Street is already blocked for northbound traffic from the intersection of State and Douglas. Regarding the management of southbound traffic on Main Street, we are considering two options: either diverting traffic at Hamilton to Douglas or redirecting it from Dodge to Erie to State. We prefer the first option (Hamilton to Douglas) as it will likely cause less congestion and frustration, particularly around the southbound lanes of Dodge and Erie, which are also expected to be used by parade participants for line-up.

For safety reasons, I personally recommend closing Dodge and Erie Streets. This would require the placement of barricades at North Wisconsin, Colbert, Erie, and Prospect.

The parade is set to commence on the west side of the State Street Bridge. We believe that these adjustments will ensure the safety of all participants and spectators while maintaining a smooth flow of traffic around the parade route.

I appreciate your consideration of these proposals. Please keep me informed about any committee or Common Council meetings related to this matter that I should attend. Your guidance and approval are crucial for the success of this much-anticipated community event.

Sincerely,

Kelly Kruse  
Executive Director

