

MEMORANDUM

TO: Roger L. Stancil, Town Manager

FROM: Brian Curran, Chief of Police
Chris Blue, Assistant Chief of Police
Butch Kisiah, Director of Parks and Recreation

SUBJECT: Response to Petition to hold a UNC Homecoming Parade

DATE: September 14, 2009

PURPOSE

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide information on a parade that has been proposed as part of the University of North Carolina Homecoming weekend celebration.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

At the June 9, 2009 Town Council meeting, UNC Student Body President Jasmin Jones requested the Town's support for a Homecoming Parade on November 7, 2009. The event would be held just before the UNC v. Duke Football game. The time for this game has not yet been announced.

Town staff has met with UNC Student government officials and representatives from the Downtown partnership, the UNC Athletic Department, and the UNC Dean of Students office in a series of planning meetings over the summer. The goal of these meetings has been to consider how the parade could be held in a way that is beneficial to the Town, the University, and the downtown commercial community.

The proposal is to start the parade approximately three and a half hours before game time. As this is a televised game, we will not know the kickoff time until a few weeks before the game. The parade participants would stage in the lots behind Hill Hall and head west on Cameron Avenue, north on Columbia Street, east on Franklin Street, south on Raleigh Street and finish near the Old Well on Cameron Avenue in time for the pre-game "Old Well Walk" to the stadium.

Chapel Hill Police Department and UNC Public Safety officers would work together to secure the route, drawing primarily from officers who are brought in to work the UNC football game and supplemented by a small number of officers who will work the parade event only. UNC has agreed to compensate the Town for any overtime costs accrued by working the parade event.

Organizers have been asked to keep the parade duration to an hour or less. Chapel Hill streets on the route will be closed to traffic in advance of the parade and reopened as the parade passes.

RECOMMENDATION

Town staff has recommended that the Manager issue a permit for the event to be held on November 7, 2009 and that Town staff are directed to partner with UNC officials in the planning and execution of the event.