

February 6, 2008

Ladies & Gentlemen of the Council;

The Lexington Area Chamber of Commerce and the Downtown Retail Committee are asking for you assistance. Historically, the Chamber of Commerce has had the "Old Fashion Fourth of July" in Memorial Park. Interest in both participation and attendance in this event has been declining over the last several years. Therefore, we would like to try something new.

Since the Fourth of July lands on a Friday in 2008, we would like to make this a three day event. We would begin on Thursday, July 3rd with downtown sidewalk sales (formerly called "Hog Wild Days"). Also beginning on Thursday, we would like to schedule a carnival that would be set up downtown. The carnival would run Thursday-Saturday nights. On Friday, there would be no 'special' downtown activities besides the carnival. Fireworks would take place that evening over at Memorial Park. On Saturday, we would like to invite car enthusiasts to participate in a "Show & Shine" that would again take place downtown.

In order to have these events downtown, we are asking that some streets be closed for all or part of this three day period. We would like to have the carnival set up on 7^{th} from Lincoln Street to Grant Street and also north from 7^{th} to 8^{th} on Washington. It is possible that the carnival may not need this much space and we can adjust our request as the dates get closer. They would be set up and running Thursday, July 3^{rd} -Saturday, July 5^{th} .

Then we would like to hold the "Show & Shine" on Washington Street for one day only Saturday, July 5th. We would like to close a one block area from either 5th-6th or 6th-7th. The 6th-7th area of Washington would allow the "Show & Shine" to meet up with the area already closed for the carnival.

We realize that closing streets is never easy, but we are hoping that the activities that we are proposing would bring Lexington residents and people from outside the area into the downtown area. I am at your disposal to discuss this with you and answer any questions that you might have.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Susan Bennett

Susan Bennett Executive Director

Lexington Area Chamber of Commerce _

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