

ORDINANCE

CITY OF NEW ORLEANS

CITY HALL: September 25, 2025

CALENDAR NO. 35,248

NO. _____ MAYOR COUNCIL SERIES

BY: COUNCILMEMBERS MORRELL AND MORENO

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain section 34-6 of the Code of the City of New Orleans to clarify the setting and adjusting of carnival parade position, route, dates, and times; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto.

WHEREAS, The City Council desires to clarify its ultimate authority to determine carnival parade position, route, dates, and times; and

WHEREAS, The Council will effectuate a change to the parade position and time for the Thursday night before Mardi Gras 2026 in which the Knights of Chaos will roll first at 4:30 p.m., followed by the Krewe of Babylon at 5:30 p.m. and the Krewe of Muses at 6 p.m.; **NOW THEREFORE**

SECTION 1. THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS HEREBY ORDAINS, That section 34-6 of the Code of the City of New Orleans, Louisiana is amended to read as follows:

“Chapter 34 – CARNIVAL, MARDI GRAS

*** * ***

ARTICLE II. – PARADE PERMITS

*** * ***

Sec. 34-6. – Parade position, route, date and time.

- (a) Unless and except as otherwise provided in a motion adopted pursuant to paragraph (d) of this section, parade permits issued under this chapter shall be for the same position, route, date and time as the parade permit issued to the carnival organization in the previous year. Parade permits issued to a carnival organization which paraded in the previous year on a rescheduled date under section 34-23 shall be for the original position, route, date and time.
- (b) Truck parades shall only be conducted on Mardi Gras Day.
- (c) A carnival organization may request a change in a parade route or time by applying for and obtaining an authorization from the superintendent of police, who shall have sole and final discretion whether to approve the parade route and time; provided, however, that any request for a change in a parade route or time shall be submitted prior to December 15 of the calendar year immediately preceding the year in which the carnival parade is to be presented.
- (d) Parade position, route, date, and start time shall be determined by city council motion.
- (e) If a conflict exists as to parade position, route, date or time, the city council shall resolve the conflict by motion and may consider the rule of parade seniority, together with other pertinent factors, to determine which organization shall have the right to the contested position, route, date or time. Parade seniority is determined by the number of consecutive years that a carnival organization has paraded. If two or more parade organizations have paraded for the same number of years, seniority shall be determined by the city council. A carnival organization shall, for the purposes of determining seniority, be deemed to

30 have paraded if the parade is cancelled for reasons beyond the control of the permit holder,
31 such as weather, fire or national emergency.

32 (f) No more than three permits for a night parade shall be issued for the same date, except
33 when a parade is rescheduled per section 34-5 or paragraph (g) of this section.

34 (g) The superintendent of police is authorized to adjust a carnival organization's parade
35 position, date, route, and start time as necessary to respond to issues of public safety or
36 other emergent circumstances."

ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS _____

PRESIDENT OF THE CITY COUNCIL

DELIVERED TO THE MAYOR ON _____

APPROVED:

DISAPPROVED: _____

MAYOR

RETURNED BY THE MAYOR ON _____ **AT** _____

CLERK OF COUNCIL

ROLL CALL VOTE:

YEAS:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

RECUSED:

REDLINE VERSION:

Sec. 34-6. – Parade position, route, date and time.

- (a) Unless and except as otherwise provided in a motion adopted pursuant to paragraph (d) of this section, pParade permits issued under this chapter shall be for the same position, route, date and time as the parade permit issued to the carnival organization in the previous year. Parade permits issued to a carnival organization which paraded in the previous year on a rescheduled date under section 34-23 shall be for the original position, route, date and time.
- (b) Truck parades shall only be conducted on Mardi Gras Day.
- (c) A carnival organization may request a change in a parade route or time by applying for and obtaining an authorization from the superintendent of police, who shall have sole and final discretion whether to approve the parade route and time; provided, however, that any request for a change in a parade route or time shall be submitted prior to December 15 of the calendar year immediately preceding the year in which the carnival parade is to be presented.
- (d) Parade position, route, date, and start time shall be determined by city council motion.
- (e) If a conflict exists as to parade position, route, date or time, the city council shall resolve the conflict by motion and may consider the rule of parade seniority, together with other pertinent factors, to determine which organization shall have the right to the contested position, route, date or time. Parade seniority is determined by the number of consecutive years that a carnival organization has paraded. If two or more parade organizations have paraded for the same number of years, seniority shall be determined by the city council. A carnival organization shall, for the purposes of determining seniority, be deemed to have paraded if the parade is cancelled for reasons beyond the control of the permit holder, such as weather, fire or national emergency.
- (f) No more than three permits for a night parade shall be issued for the same date, except when a parade is rescheduled per section 34-5 or paragraph (g) of this section.
- (g) The superintendent of police is authorized to adjust a carnival organization's parade position, date, route, and start time as necessary to respond to issues of public safety or other emergent circumstances.