

RESOLUTION NO. m-1476

WHEREAS, the Olympia City Council recognizes the importance to the community of events that involve public celebration and public expression of opinion; and

WHEREAS, the City Council acknowledges and accepts its responsibility to preserve and balance essential civil rights for all citizens, including the right to peaceably assemble, the right to freedom of speech and the right to freedom of movement on public ways; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to facilitate safe, meaningful public events that contribute positively to the unique fabric of the community; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has openly sought and received the comments and advice of members of the community; and

WHEREAS, after thoughtfully considering those comments and advice, the City Council has identified several themes, as follows:

- Constitutional rights are the foundation of our democracy, and safe, responsible exercise of those rights should be encouraged;
- The exercise of constitutional rights involves the inherent responsibility to respect the rights of others;
- All public events deserve equitable access to City event planning and safety services;
- All people present at public events deserve to be treated with equal respect, regardless of their political views or their motivation for being present;
- Misunderstanding and conflict are best avoided through communication and a spirit of cooperation;

- Reasonable community inconvenience for public events, as long as it does not involve assuring the rights of some citizens at the expense of the rights of others, should be both tolerated and accommodated;
 - When public safety is threatened, only that amount of law enforcement action necessary to maintain order and assure the safety of persons and property should be taken;
 - Individuals are responsible for their own actions and should be held accountable accordingly;
- and*

• **WHEREAS**, persons planning such events would show respect, courtesy and consideration toward the community by providing adequate public notice and by planning jointly with the City for provision of appropriate services to protect public health and safety; and

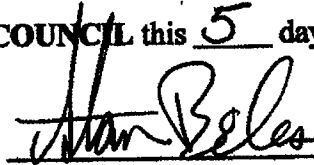
WHEREAS, the City may not be able to reasonably provide public services at optimum levels if advance notice and joint planning do not take place.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Olympia, Washington, that the City's response to both planned and spontaneous public events of celebration and/or expression of opinion occurring in the City of Olympia will be guided by the following considerations:

- Whether or not conditions are present that either involve or threaten to involve injury to any person or animal, or illegal damage to any public or private property;
- The degree to which an event respects the civil and constitutional rights of *all* citizens and reflects a spirit of cooperation and compromise when the rights of event participants conflict with the rights of non-participants;

- The ability of emergency services (fire, police, medical) to reach participants and non-participants in a timely manner that is consistent with normal response time to the event locale;
- The extent to which appropriate support and safety services are available.

PASSED BY THE OLYMPIA CITY COUNCIL this 5 day of December 2000.



MAYOR

ATTEST:



CITY CLERK

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11/30/00