

Ordinance No. 593

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LA CRESCENT

REGULATING PARADE SAFETY AND CONDUCT IN THE CITY OF LA CRESCENT, MINNESOTA

SECTION 1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this ordinance is to promote the safety of parade participants and spectators, minimize noise-related disturbances, and ensure responsible event management practices during parades held within the City of La Crescent.

SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS

1. Parade: A public procession, including floats, vehicles, or participants, organized for celebratory, commemorative, or promotional purposes along a defined route within the City of La Crescent.
2. Parade Participant: Any individual, group, organization, or entity participating in a parade.
3. Safety Plan: A document prepared by parade organizers outlining measures to ensure traffic control, security, and emergency access during the event.

SECTION 3. REGULATIONS

A. Noise Level Control

1. The use of sirens, horns, or other high-decibel noise-making devices is prohibited.

B. Candy Distribution

1. Throwing candy or any other objects from moving vehicles during parades is strictly prohibited.
2. Parade participants may distribute candy or other small items by walking alongside their floats or vehicles and handing them directly to spectators.
3. Guidelines for candy distribution shall be incorporated into the parade permit application process, and all participants must adhere to these rules.

C. Application for Parade Permit

1. Any individual or organization seeking to host a parade within the City of La Crescent must apply for a parade permit no less than 30 days prior to the scheduled date of the parade.
2. The application must be submitted to the City Clerk and must include:
 - a. Proposed date, time, and route of the parade.
 - b. Estimated number of participants and vehicles.
 - c. Contact information of the responsible organizer(s).
 - d. Complete Safety Plan, as outlined in Section D.
 - e. Proof of insurance policy, as outlined in Section F.
3. The City reserves the right to deny or revoke a parade permit if the applicant fails to meet safety, timing, insurance requirements or procedural requirements, or if prior violations are on record.

D. Safety Plan Requirement

1. All parade organizers must submit a Safety Plan to the City as part of the parade permit application process. The plan must address:
 - a. Traffic control measures.
 - b. Security provisions.
 - c. Emergency vehicle access.
 - d. Open flames (e.g., torches or fire performances)
2. The Safety Plan must be reviewed and approved by the La Crescent Police Department and Public Works Department prior to the issuance of a parade permit.
3. Organizers must ensure clean-up of the parade route and surrounding areas following the event.

E. Nighttime Parade Safety (Torchtlight Parades)

1. Parades occurring after sunset, including torchlight parades, must include additional safety measures in the submitted Safety Plan. These measures must address visibility and lighting concerns to protect both participants and spectators.
2. All floats, vehicles, and walking participants must be equipped with appropriate lighting such as LED lights, reflective materials, or other illumination devices that ensure visibility in low-light conditions.
3. Open flames (e.g., torches or fire performances) are prohibited unless specifically approved by the La Crescent Fire Department and included in the Safety Plan with detailed fire safety precautions.

4. Organizers must ensure adequate street lighting along the parade route and may be required to supplement with temporary lighting if existing infrastructure is insufficient.

D. Insurance

1. Prior to issuance of the permit by the City of La Crescent, each permittee shall furnish evidence of a liability insurance policy in amounts of not less than \$500,000 per occurrence and \$1,000,000 annual aggregate and shall be in force and effect at the time such usage is to take place. Said evidence of insurance shall include a certificate of insurance naming the City of La Crescent as additional insured in connection with said usage.
2. The parade permit holder is responsible for ensuring that all participating units are properly insured.

SECTION 4. ENFORCEMENT

1. Any violation of the provisions of this ordinance may result in:
 - a. Immediate suspension or termination of the parade permit.
 - b. Fines as established by the City's fee schedule.
 - c. Denial of future parade permits for the violating organization or individual.
2. Enforcement of this ordinance shall be the responsibility of the La Crescent Police Department and other City-designated personnel.

SECTION 5. EXCEPTIONS

1. Emergency vehicles participating in parades may use sirens or loud horns as necessary for public safety purposes.
2. Military observances, including ceremonial gun salutes, are permitted.
3. Other exceptions may be granted by the City Council upon request and subject to conditions deemed appropriate to ensure public safety.

SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE

This ordinance shall take effect upon its adoption and publication as required by law.

PASSED AND ENACTED this ____ day of _____, 2025.

SIGNED:

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Administrator