



PARADE INSTRUCTION HANDBOOK

REVISED 03.19.2026

SATURDAY
APRIL 4TH 2026

PARADE START TIMES:
TACOMA - 10:15 AM
PUYALLUP - 12:45 PM
SUMNER - 2:30 PM
ORTING - 5:00 PM

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TACOMA PARADE - (PARADE START 10:15AM)

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Section 1 - Tacoma Parade - MAP





TACOMA PARADE – (PARADE START 10:15AM)

SECTION 1.A. Float Preparation Area

A 24,000 Sq Ft covered warehouse within 1 mile of our Pacific Avenue pre-parade staging area is available. Located at the east end of the 11th Street Bridge, the address is 501 East 11th Street, Tacoma, 98421. There is ample room in the facility's secure parking lot for float transport and support vehicles. Access is available the day/evening before. Site coordinators are Ernie and Steve Ouelette, 253-861-1588 or 253-468-1955.

Floats should be prepared to leave the area NLT 7:00am in parade numerical order to proceed to the final staging area (Pacific Avenue). Floats will exit the warehouse, loop around to 11th Street and proceed west across the 11th Street Bridge. Turn right on A St, left on 9th St and left on Pacific Avenue. Floats will be staged in numerical order on the right hand side of Pacific Avenue between S 9th Street and S 13th St.

Float judging will begin promptly at 8:00am. Please have your riding personal on the float at that time. Float riders need be available for the benefit of judges and photographers. A parade official will indicate when judging is completed.

SECTION 1.B. Float Rider and Support Vehicles - Tacoma

Floats are staged for judging and the parade on Pacific Avenue between S 9th St and S 13 St.

Float Support and rider vehicles must depart the staging area prior to 9:30am and proceed to the disband area at parades end, between S 22nd and S 23rd St. Parade Marshals will provide direction and guidance.

SECTION 1.C. VIP Vehicles - Tacoma

VIP vehicles will be staged at the Diamond Parking Lot at S 7th St and Commerce Street. To get there from I-5, take the City Center exit/705 off ramp to the Stadium Way off ramp. Turn left at signal - road changes to Commerce. The Diamond Parking lot is just prior to S 7th St. Please arrive at the Diamond Parking lot NLT 8:15am.

A Parade Marshal will assist in arranging the VIP vehicles in numbered order. Signage for VIP vehicles is provided at that point. Vehicles need leave the parking lot NLT 9:15am and proceed the Diamond Parking Lot #2 at S 10th and Pacific Ave. (Go right on Commerce, left on S 9th to Court A. Turn right to S. 10th).



TACOMA PARADE – (PARADE START 10:15AM)

SECTION 1.D. Bands and Large Marching Units - Tacoma

Buses and support trucks/trailers will assemble at Stellar Industrial Supply at the Parking Area located at 711 E 11th Street. To avoid impacting the parade route and other staging areas, please exit I-5 at Portland Avenue exit #134 if traveling northbound; at exit #135 if traveling southbound. From there, follow your GPS device to 711 E 11th Street. From the parking area, bands must move on foot to the parade line-up point.

Departure times from the parking area are determined by your position in the parade:

- Parade #1 - 50 - Depart NLT 9:00am
- Parade # 51-83 - Depart MLT 9:30am
- Parade # 84-112 - Depart NLT 9:45am

Parade marshals will assist in band placement along E 11th St

Buses - When leaving the Stellar Industrial Supply parking lot, turn right to St Paul Ave. The left on St Paul to E 15th. Turn right on E-15th St - Road turns left and changes to E D St. Turn right on E-26th and travel to Pacific Ave. Turn right (two blocks) and right on on S. 24th (Puyallup Avenue). From there, a parade official or Tacoma Police Officer will direct you to the disband parking area between S "C" street and Pacific Avenue. It is important that a center lane be open at all times on S 24th (Puyallup Avenue) so that slow moving float can continue unabated to the next parade venue in Puyallup.

SECTION 1.E. Motorized Plus and Non-Motorized Plus Units - Tacoma

Rider and Support Vehicles **NOT** in the parade:

From I-5 Northbound, take Portland Avenue Exit #134. From I-5 Southbound, take Puyallup/Portland Avenue Exit #135. From there, follow GPS device directions to the Stellar Industrial Supply parking lot, 711 E 11th Street. Drop off your parade participants at the 11th and St Paul intersection. Parade participants proceed on foot over the 11th Street Bridge and will be placed in proper order by parade marshals.

After dropping of parade participants at 11th and St Paul, Rider and Support Vehicles will turn left on St. Paul and travel to E-15th St. Turn right - road changes to E. D Street. Turn right on E-26th St and travel to Pacific Ave. Turn right on Pacific Ave and park in disband area S.22nd St, S. 23rd St. And A St. To S. 24th St as directed.

Motorized Plus and Non-Motorized Plus vehicles that are **IN** the parade: follow above directions to Stellar Industrial and continue onto 11th to park in your designated numbered parade spot. You will be assisted by parade marshals.



TACOMA PARADE – (PARADE START 10:15AM)

SECTION 1.E. (CONT) Self-Contained Parade Vehicles (no walkers) - Tacoma

All self-contained parade vehicles (Entries w/o walkers, street performers, banner carriers) will be staged on Pacific Avenue in your designated numbered parade spot. To get there, follow VIP vehicle directions above, except when on Commerce Street, turn right on 9th Ave and right again on Pacific Avenue. You will be staged on the left-hand side of the street between 9th and 12th Ave.

SECTION 1.F. Mounted and Animal Units - Tacoma

Follow your GPS device directions to Stellar Industrial Supply, 711 E 11th Street. From there, proceed up and over the 11th street bridge. Once across the bridge, turn left on A Street and right on 12th St. Your animals are staged here, right behind the Puyallup Tribe Entry.

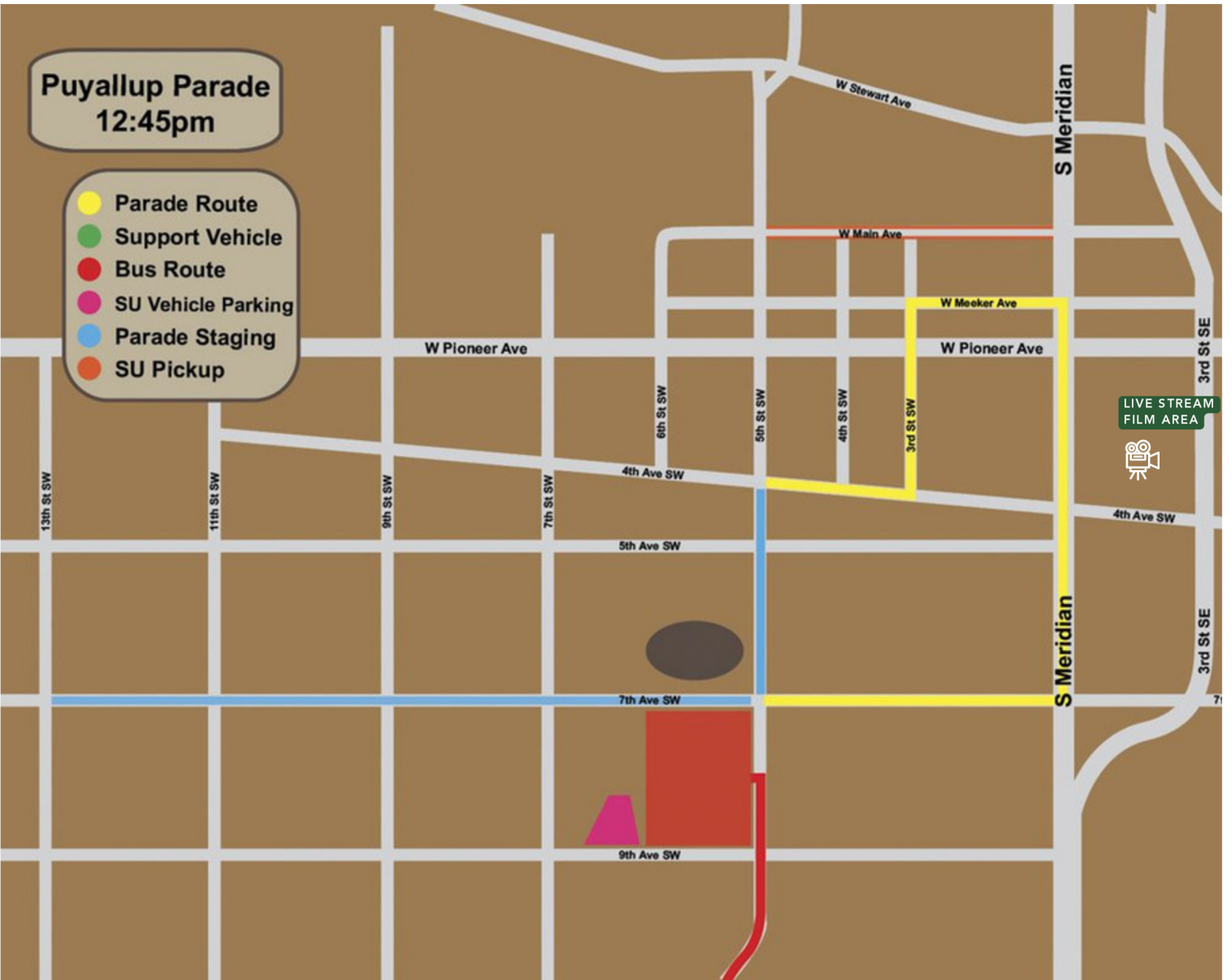
Support vehicles/trailers proceed up 12th to Pacific Avenue (Parade Route), turn left and left again at S 24th (Puyallup Avenue). From there, a parade official or Tacoma Police Officer will direct you to the disband parking area between S "C" street and Pacific Avenue. You will pick your animals/riders at that point.



PUYALLUP PARADE - (PARADE START 12:45PM)

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Section 2 - Puyallup Parade - MAP





PUYALLUP PARADE - (PARADE START 12:45PM)
LIVE STREAM ON THIS ROUTE - FOLLOW MARTIAL INSTRUCTION

SECTION 2.A. Float Rider and Support Vehicles - Puyallup

From Tacoma or elsewhere: Float rider and support vehicles will assemble in the First Christian Church parking lot in Puyallup - 623 9th Ave SW. You can rejoin your float when it reaches the corner of 7th St SW and 7th Ave SW. Set and follow your GPS!

SECTION 2.B. Floats traveling from Tacoma to the Puyallup Staging Area:

1. Proceed south on S 24th St/Puyallup Avenue. Turn right on Portland Ave. - stay in middle lane to East 28th St.
2. Turn left on East 28th. Get in the right lane to Puyallup Exit (River Road/SR 167).
3. Go east on River Road several miles to Puyallup. NOTE: Floats are escorted in the left traffic lane with width overflowing into the two-way turn lane. This allows traffic to pass the floats freely on the right.
4. Turn right prior to the Toyota dealership onto 15th Street NW
5. At the end of 15th Street, turn left onto West Stewart Avenue.
6. Turn right and cross the railroad tracks at 12th St NW (school bus garage). Turn right onto West Pioneer Avenue at Maplewood Elementary.
7. One block later, turn left onto 13th St SW.
8. Turn left onto 7th Ave SW. A parade marshal will be on 7th Ave to direct your float and support vehicles. All parade entries will be lining up on 7th Ave. SW.

Rescue 4x4's will be accompanying float on the road from Tacoma to Puyallup - front and rear.

SECTION 2.C. VIP Vehicles - Puyallup

VIP vehicles with dignitaries and associates continuing to Puyallup will turn left at S 21st Street. (This is I-509). Have your GPS set for Sparks Stadium in Puyallup - 601 7th Ave. SW. This is your staging area. Food can be purchased at the stadium. You will be lining up at or near Sparks stadium for the Puyallup parade. A parade marshal will assist you in staging in your proper position.

Remember to remove your signage from the VIP vehicles. They will fly off at or before you reach the speed limit!



PUYALLUP PARADE - (PARADE START 12:45PM)

SECTION 2.D. Band Buses - Puyallup

Your destination is the Red Parking lot at the Washington State Fair. Because of congestion off River Road and the streets leading up to the parade route, it is far better to approach your destination from State Route 512. Food and concessions and restrooms are available for participants and drivers at your destination.

1. From Tacoma, turn right East "C" Street to East 26th Street.
2. Turn right on East 26th to Pacific Avenue
3. Turn left on Pacific Avenue and enter the I-5 southbound lanes - Toward Portland.
4. Exit freeway onto 9th Street SW near the South Hill Mall. Turn left. Proceed north on 9th St SW.
5. At 15th Ave SW, proceed ahead onto Fairway Drive (behind the WS Fair).
6. Please wait until parade marshals direct you to the bus parking area in the Red parking lot.

If you are starting your day in Puyallup, approach the Red Lot via the intersection of 9th St SW and 15th Avenue SE. (Parade congestion will prevent you getting to the Red Lot from the North or downtown Puyallup). Fairway Drive near WSF's roller coaster is the pre-staging area. If your parade number is 1 - 50, arrive by 11:30. 50-100 - 12:15. A parade marshal will direct buses from pre-staging to the Red Lot in approximate parade order.

Once parked, the bus may unload. The bus will be in this same spot for re-boarding after the parade is completed.

Band members are to proceed as pedestrians across 7th Avenue SW into Sparks Stadium. Restrooms are available. Food is available for purchase. **Ted Brown Music Co is offering FREE "on the spot" instrument repair.**



PUYALLUP PARADE - (PARADE START 12:45PM)

SECTION 2.E. Special Unit Vehicles Participating in the Parade - Puyallup

For Special Vehicles participating in the parade, follow the directions above for “**Floats Traveling from Tacoma to the Puyallup Staging Area**”. You will be assisted by parade marshals and assemble as floats according to your parade number on 7th Ave SW between 7th St SW and 13th St SW.

For Special Unit Rider and Support Vehicles NOT participating in the parade, you will park in the First Christian Church parking lot at 623 9th Ave SW in Puyallup. Set and follow your GPS!

Parade participants (walkers) travel as pedestrians to Sparks Stadium where you will line up in the stadium parking lot. Check with the Parade Marshal in the parking lot. Bands assemble inside Sparks Stadium.

The Puyallup Parade starts on 7th Avenue SW at 5th St SE. Parade ends three blocks away on 4th Ave. SW at 5th St SW.

After completing the parade, participants will walk south in front of Meeker Elementary School and then through Sparks Stadium parking lot back to the Support/Rider vehicles at First Christian Church.

Parade Marshals will be positioned to give specific exit instructions for parade vehicles going to Sumner and for those ending their participation in Puyallup.

SECTION 2.F. Mounted Units - Puyallup

STAGING AREA FOR MOUNTED UNITS IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION. YOU WILL BE EMAILED DIRECTLY WITH NEW INSTRUCTION PER WA STATE FAIR AND CITY OF PUYALLUP GUIDANCE AS WE RECEIVE IT.

Wait here until the parade marshal directs you to the horse assembly area at the parade route. The marshal will lead you to stage on 5th St SW just south of 7th Ave SW for the parade.



SUMNER PARADE - (PARADE START 2:30PM)

SECTION 3.A. Floats - to Sumner

1. From Puyallup, floats will proceed eastbound on Main Avenue, cross Meridian, to the stop sign at 2nd/3rd St NE (the bypass). Here floats will assemble into groups before proceeding to Sumner.
2. Turn left on 2nd/3rd St NE (the bypass).
3. Make the 180 degree turn around Pizza Hut onto East Stewart Ave which will soon change its name to E Main Ave.
4. Proceed to Sumner across the Puyallup River near Mama Stortini's Restaurant.

If your float needs assistance between the Puyallup assembly area and the Sumner parade disband area, a local Jeep club is available to provide it.

1. East Main turns into Linden Avenue and crosses the Puyallup River. The road name changes to Traffic Avenue.
2. From Traffic Avenue, turn right on Thompson Street to Cherry Ave.
3. Turn left on Cherry Ave.

Floats stage on Cherry Ave & Narrow St. Float support and rider vehicles can park on Alder Ave., Apple, Lot & City Lot parking areas to render assistance and drop off riders. From Thompson St, turn left on Alder Ave. Turn Right onto Academy St. Depart the area by using Academy Street and park near Valley Avenue. (DO NOT PARK ON VALLEY AVE.)

Alternate parking can be obtained by: Starting on Thompson St Turn Left onto Alder Ave. Turn right onto Academy St. Turn Left onto Valley Ave. Turn Right or Left into grocery store or school parking lots.

The Sumner Parade disband area will be on East Main Street between Lewis Ave and Valley Ave for floats going on to Orting. All finished Entries go straight continue through Main St. to grocery store parking lot.



SUMNER PARADE - (PARADE START 2:30PM)

SECTION 3.B. Float Rider and Support Vehicle Exit from Puyallup to Sumner

1. Exit the church parking lot and turn right.
2. Turn right again on 9th St SW - heading north.
3. Turn right on West Pioneer - heading east.
4. Turn left on 5th St SW - heading north.
5. Turn right on W Main Ave.

Once you are on West Main Avenue, park your support and royalty vehicles at the right curb. Floats will be passing you on the left. Parade marshals are there to help. When your float arrives, they will stop at the left curb of West Main Ave just long enough for passengers to disembark.

Follow the Float directions above for travel to Sumner.

1. Sumner - Turn right on Thompson St and left on Station Lane (first left).
2. Turn left on Station Lane and enter Train Station drop area.
3. After dropping off your riders, turn right on Academy St and park on side streets near Valley Ave or continue to Valley Ave and turn left to the high school stadium parking lot just past Main St.

SECTION 3.C. VIP Vehicles - Puyallup to Sumner

Follow the floats to Sumner - At the end of Puyallup Parade on 4th Ave SW, turn right on 5th St SW, turn right on West Main St, cross Meridian and follow Float directions (above) to Sumner.

Turn right on Thompson, left on Kincaid to main and stage as directed by parade marshals.



SUMNER PARADE - (PARADE START 2:30PM)

SECTION 3.D. Band Buses - Puyallup to Sumner

1. When loaded, proceed to Sumner as a group. Due to shortage of parking space, it is important you arrive in Sumner in parade order.
2. Turn right onto 5th St SW. Proceed southbound behind fairgrounds on 5th - 9th extension.
3. Turn left on 15th St SW and proceed under freeway.
4. Turn left on South Meridian.
5. Turn right at northbound (Auburn/Seattle) ramp onto Freeway 512.
6. Keep right onto northbound Hwy 167.
7. Exit onto Hwy 410 eastbound toward Sumner/Buckley.
8. Take Traffic Avenue/Sumner exit. Turn left at light onto Traffic Ave toward Sumner.
9. Turn right on Thompson under railroad trestle.
10. Turn left on Kincaid Ave (3rd street beyond railroad trestle). Here follow parade marshal instructions on where to unload passengers and equipment.
11. Buses will be directed by city police or their representatives down Academy Street to Meeker. **IMPORTANT...please move to the pick up point after unloading right away!!**
12. The parade starts at Kincaid and Main Street and ends at Lewis Avenue.

SECTION 3.E. Special Unit Vehicles - Motorized Units - Puyallup to Sumner

For SU1 units in the Puyallup Parade, follow Float instructions above to Sumner.
For SU1 Rider and Support units leaving the First Christian Church parking lot, follow Float Rider and Support Instructions above from Puyallup to Sumner.

SECTION 3.F. Mounted Units

Once again, it is best to take the Band Bus route to Sumner. (Section 3D)

1. Once loaded, proceed east on 9th Ave SW.
2. Turn left on 5th St SW. Proceed southbound behind fairgrounds on 5th - 9th extension.
3. Turn left on 15th Ave SW
4. Turn left on South Meridian
5. Turn right at northbound (Auburn/Seattle) ramp onto Freeway 512
6. Keep right onto northbound Hwy 167
7. Exit onto Hwy 410 eastbound toward Sumner/Buckley
8. Take Traffic Avenue/Sumner exit. Turn left at light onto Traffic Ave toward Sumner.
9. Turn right on Thompson under railroad trestle.
10. Turn left on Kincaid Ave (3rd street beyond railroad trestle). Follow parade marshal instructions and unload animals on the corner of Kincaid and Academy Street.
11. Turn right on Academy Street and proceed to Valley Ave.
12. Turn left on Valley Ave and left again into Sunset Stadium parking lot.



ORTING PARADE - (PARADE START 5:00 PM)

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Section 4 - Orting Parade - MAP





ORTING PARADE - (PARADE START 5:00 PM)

SECTION 4.A. Sumner to Orting - Floats

At the completion of the Sumner Parade, Floats will be lined for escort on Main Street between Lewis Avenue and Valley Avenue. Escort service will be provided by 4x4 Jeeps. The procession will begin after faster moving Floats have had a chance to turn right on Valley Highway (Sumner/Orting Highway, SR 162).

All Entries that are not Bands/Busses or Floats, will turn Left into Sunset stadium parking lot to be routed to Valley ave. and continue to Orting.

SECTION 4.B Bands / Large Marching Units and Buses

Marching units at the end of the parade will turn right on Lewis Avenue and proceed to Academy St where buses are parked.

- When band buses enter Orting, SR 162 turns into Washington Ave. Travel to the intersection of Washington Avenue North and Whitesell Street N. Turn right on Whitesell Street S. Turn Left onto Corrin Ave NW. Left on Calistoga St W.
- Immediate Right on Van Scoyoc Avenue SW and a parade official will assist in parking at the trail parking lot between Van Scoyoc Ave SW and Bridge.
- Band members will queue on Bridge Street opposite the Eagles Hall prior to the parade.
- Band members and marching units are welcome at the Orting Eagles Aerie (downstairs) for rest and free refreshments prior to start of the parade.
- Marching Band Trailers; When entering Orting, SR 162 turns into Washington Ave. Travel to the intersection of Washington Avenue North and Whitesell Street N. Turn LEFT on Whitesell Street N. Turn Right Varner Ave NE. Turn Right onto Bridge St SE, Then Stage on Left in front of the White Orting Manor House.

After Orting Parade:

- Turn Right onto Bridge St SW
- Turn Right onto Eldredge Ave SW
- If departing to Graham area, Turn Left onto Calistoga St W
- If departing to Sumner/ Puyallup, Continue on Eldredge Ave NW to Whitehawk Blvd. NW
- Turn right onto Whitehawk Blvd. NW
- Turn Left onto Washington Ave/ SR-162



ORTING PARADE - (PARADE START 5:00 PM)

SECTION 4.C. Special (SU) Parade Units, VIPs

1. Upon entering Orting and pass the High School, turn left on Whitesell St. S.
2. Turn right on to Varner Ave NE.
3. Take Varner all the way to Brown St. SE and turn right.
4. Turn right onto Washington Ave to stage - volunteer parade marshals will be there to assist.

(Note: VIP units turn right on Bridge Street and stage at the southwest intersection of Washington and Bridge Street near the Orting Eagles Lodge.)

SECTION 4.D. Mounted / Animal Units

Follow the instructions above (Section 4C, Orting Parade) with the following addendum:

- Unload at or near Triangle Park (312 River Ave SE pm the corner of Bridge St SE and Varner St SE).
- After unloading, trailers should double back to the Orting High School parking lot (parade's end).
- Horse units will stage on the side of the road along Bridge St SE between Rainier Lane & Varner Ave SE near the Los Pinos restaurant.

SECTION 4.E. Rider & Support Units Not in Parade

Upon entering Orting, turn left to park and unload in the Orting High School parking lot. The parade ends at the high school. The parade starts on Washington Avenue at Bridge Street and ends at Whitesell Street.

Jeep Clubs:

- Once you pass the high school, turn Left onto Whitesell Street N
- Turn Right onto Varner Ave. NE
- Once you reach Bridge St SE, Turn Left and park at Triangle Park
- Floats will continue on Varner Ave.