
SUBJECT: Parade Delivery Considerations in conjunction with the 2026 Lakeshore Music & Arts Festival

TO: Council

FROM: Community Services
Recreation, Community and Culture

Report Number: CSS-01-26

Wards Affected: all

Date to Council: February 17, 2026

Purpose

The purpose of this memo is to provide Council with additional background and analysis following direction provided at the Committee of the Whole meeting on February 9, 2026:

“Direct the Director of Recreation, Community and Culture to be available to support a community-driven parade at the same time as the Lakeshore Music & Arts Festival in 2026, to be funded from the Community Investment Reserve Fund.”

This memo summarizes the operational, policing, route, staffing, and financial considerations identified through further review and presents two options for Council’s consideration.

Background & Analysis

Following Council’s direction, staff reviewed historical parade routes, assessed logistics from previous festival years, and consulted with key partners—including the Halton Regional Police Service (HRPS)—to identify parade formats that could be accommodated in June 2026. This review considered available dates, route conditions, infrastructure placement, and the resources required to safely integrate a parade into the Lakeshore Music & Arts Festival weekend.

Through this analysis, staff determined that a traditional Saturday morning street parade presents multiple challenges. HRPS has advised that policing resources on Saturday (and Sunday) are significantly constrained due to festival-related deployment, and the early installation of the Community Stage at Brant Street and James Street will block the Brant

Street parade route. As a result, staff developed two alternative approaches for Council's consideration that remain aligned with operational, safety, and resource requirements.

The first option is a scaled down parade—a small march featuring the Burlington Teen Tour Band—delivered along the Promenade on Saturday morning. This approach avoids major road closures, requires minimal staffing and police involvement, and can be delivered with a modest budget. The second option is a traditional street parade held on Friday, June 19, 2026, at 7:00 p.m., using a Brant Street route from Baldwin to Elgin (refer to Appendix A). This option is supported by HRPS, aligns with available resources, avoids conflicts with Saturday festival infrastructure, and provides a more traditional parade experience for spectators and participants. The estimated cost of a Friday evening parade is approximately \$50,000, including required road closures, signage, paid duty policing, event staffing, rentals, and performer support.

Conclusion

In conclusion, this memo provides additional information on the feasible parade options for June 2026 while outlining the operational considerations associated with each. Staff will proceed as directed by Council and collaborate with partners to support the selected option.

Author:

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Attachments:

A. Parade Route #1 Baldwin to Elgin

Memo Approval:

Supplemental staff memos are reviewed and approved by the Commissioner.