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Office of the Sheriff

Jesse Jahner, Sheriff

Date: May 27th, 2024

Re: Agenda Request for Permission to Close Cass Highway 28 during the Red River Valley Fair.

Chad Peterson, Commission Chair,

The Cass County Sheriff's Office is requesting permission to place jersey barriers and close Cass Highway 28 more specifically, the locations of.

Road Closure Location:

- Barricade 15th Street North of Avenue of Flags (Main Gate) just south of the North VIP Lot entrance.
- Barricade 15th Street South of Avenue of Flags (Main Gate) just south of the Main Gate.



Cass County Sheriff
Law Enforcement Center
1612 23rd Avenue North
P.O. Box 488
Fargo, North Dakota 58107-0488
Phone: 701-241-5800
Fax: 701-241-5806

Cass County Sheriff
Courthouse
211 9th Street South
P.O. Box 488
Fargo, North Dakota 58107-0488
Phone: 701-241-5800
Fax: 701-241-5805

Cass County Jail
450 34th Street South
Fargo, North Dakota 58103
Phone: 701-271-2900
Fax: 701-271-2967

The effective dates of closure would be the following.

Dates Affected

- Friday, June 28 at 0800-Closed.
- Monday, July 1 at 0200-Re-opened.
- Thursday, July 4 at 0800-Closed.
- Monday, July 8-Re-opened.
- Thursday, July 11 at 0800-Closed.
- Monday, July 15 at 0200-Re-opened.

Reasons for the closure and why we believe it is necessary.

- Safety Concerns at the main gate: Closing the road down will significantly protect pedestrian traffic walking from the parking lots to the RRVF who are crossing 15th Street to gain access.
- Metal Detectors-Medal detectors are being utilized at the RRVF. There is an anticipation that fairgoers will have to wait slightly longer to gain access to the grounds, which will potentially make the lines to enter longer. In the past, we have had large numbers of foot traffic attempt to gain access at the same time. During this time, the line extended to 15th Street. With the extra time to enter, this will eliminate any safety concerns of the backed-up traffic on 15th street.
- Intentional Vehicular Threats-With Jersey barriers placed on the roadway, this will significantly reduce or eliminate the ability for a motorist to intentionally drive into crowds (as has been happening nationally recently) to cause mass casualties.
- The roadway is shut down in this area after each concert, regardless. Having it permanently shut down will assist with getting traffic cleared out of the parking lot safely, efficiently, and more quickly.
- Parent/Uber pickup-An issue we have consistently experienced during the day, people are able to access Gate 3 (North gate) to drop off their kids. At the end of the night, when we are directing traffic out of the parking lots, nobody can access 15th Street northbound from 13th Avenue or southbound from Main Avenue. This has caused confusion in the past. If the road is closed throughout the day, it is the intention/hope that parents and Uber will make the appropriate arrangements to access gate 3 from Main Avenue, as they will know the road is closed at the main gate the entire day.

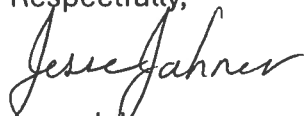
Logistics:

- The road will be closed with concrete jersey barriers (set up and torn down by the RRVF staff).
- Information will be sent out to the closure by the RRVF prior to the event. There will also be proper signage prior to the closure dates, providing the information to the public prior to closure.

Suggested Motion”

Grant permission for the Cass County Sheriff’s Office to close Cass Highway 28 at the above noted locations and times for the purpose of public safety during the Red River Valley Fair.

Respectfully,



Jesse Janner

Cass County Sheriff’s Office