



College Park Continues Its Historic Main Street Christmas Parade Tradition

(College Park, GA) In an effort to spread holiday events across the city, College Park City Council voted to relocate the historic Christmas Parade to a new location on Godby Road in Ward #3. Due to greater logistical needs involving traffic flow, moving hundreds of parade participants, and timing involved in notifying volunteers and city residents of the change, the parade will remain on **Main Street on Saturday, December 7, 2024 @ 9:30am.**

Following the vote, College Park City Manager, Dr. Emmanuel Adediran, Police Chief Connie Rogers, Director of Recreation and Cultural Affairs, Michelle Johnson and other city Department Heads conducted a site inspection of the proposed new parade location. It was determined that the move, on such short notice, was impractical. Minimal sidewalks and no parallel side-streets to allow for area residents to conduct business and leave their residences for work, worship or other personal business played into the decision. The decor used by College Park's Main Street Association would also need to be quickly re-fitted for a new location. Additionally, logistics of notifying schools, bands, float owners and other registered parade participants a few days prior to the school, state and federal Thanksgiving holiday could have negative consequences.

"We are one city, yes with four wards, but one city. Going forward we will make greater effort on the front end towards addition versus subtraction, adding to community events, spirit and decor, versus subtraction - or in effect pitting one neighborhood or community against another. Main Streets across the country are the traditional location, near the seats of government and downtown, of holding and hosting holiday events. We expect those traditions to remain in place in College Park, but that will not keep up from expanding to more offerings, as well as finding practical ways to make all of these events more accessible for residents without a car and limited ability to move around our city." said Dr. Emmanuel Adediran, City Manager, City of College Park.