



Fiesta Flambeau® Parade Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 15277

San Antonio, Texas 78212

www.fiestaflambeauparade.org

August 28, 2018

Executive Board

2017-2018

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As representatives of the Fiesta Flambeau Parade Association, Inc., we host the nation's largest illuminated night parade; we bear the responsibility of ensuring the continuity and legacy of the Fiesta Flambeau parade – a premier event of the eleven days of Fiesta each year. We plan, organize, produce, and stage this parade in partnership with the Fiesta San Antonio Commission each year to enhance the celebration for the San Antonio community and its visitors.

We have followed the progression of the *Reimagine the Alamo* effort since its inception and appreciate the work involved in creating a project of this scope and vision. We appreciate the commitment of the City of San Antonio and its partners on the Alamo Management Committee to work with our organization and the Fiesta San Antonio Commission to:

- Ensure that the Fiesta Flambeau Parade will have uninterrupted continuity and remain on City's property and Right of Way both during and after construction at the expanded Alamo Plaza via an alternative parade route consistent with the plan presented to the Alamo Citizen's Advisory Committee on August 27, 2018;
- Create a transition plan that will address and offset any financial impact associated with putting on our parade as a result of the Alamo Masterplan through final transition to a permanent new route upon completion of the project.
- Make the next seventy years of the Fiesta Flambeau experience at Alamo Plaza even more special and memorable in the future than the first.

It is because of the considerable work of both the Alamo Management Committee and Alamo Citizen's Advisory Committee (and the care they have taken to preserve our San Antonio traditions as demonstrated by the assurances above), that we endorse the current plan that was shared with our Board of Directors on August 28, 2018. We look forward to collaborating with the Alamo planning team to adjust the parade route for a successful Flambeau and provide for the continued celebration of San Antonio's time-honored traditions, Fiesta, our parade, and most importantly, the legacy of The Alamo.

This letter is submitted on behalf of the Board of Directors for the Fiesta Flambeau Parade Association, Inc.

Sincerely,


Bonnie Carrisal, President

Mission Statement: The purpose of the Fiesta Flambeau® Parade Association Inc., hereafter known as the Association, shall be to plan, organize, produce, and stage the Fiesta Flambeau Parade annually during Fiesta San Antonio. The Association shall do so to enhance the celebration for the San Antonio community and its visitors.

The Battle of Flowers® Association

... celebrating Texas history

Post Office Box 6432

San Antonio, Texas 78209

August 29, 2018

Councilman Roberto Treviño
City of San Antonio
115 Plaza de Armas
San Antonio, TX 78205

Re: Battle of Flowers Parade

Councilman Treviño,

The Battle of Flowers Association ("BOF"), when presented with the recent Alamo Master Plan (the "Plan") dated June 7, 2018, embarked upon the pursuit to guard and preserve the present historic parade route which currently passes directly in front of the Alamo chapel on Alamo Street (Alamo Plaza). This quest involved meeting with city leaders (all San Antonio city council members, representatives of the Mayor's office and City Manager, Sheryl Sculley.) It also involved meeting with you multiple times. In the meeting with you on July 24, 2018, onsite at Alamo plaza, BOF representatives were shown possibilities for alternative parade routes. The July 24th meeting at Alamo Plaza also included Alamo historian, Dr. Bruce Winders, who provided additional details with regard to the history of the Alamo.

While several alternative parade routes have been suggested, none have included the ability to allow for the BOF parade to follow down its current route on Alamo Street. The Plan includes permanent closure of Alamo Street without the possibility of having temporary access for events such as the BOF parade. Suggestions have been made by BOF representatives and other stakeholders for the use of temporary, retractable bollards which would allow for such as-needed access but these suggestions have not been incorporated in any of the revised plans to date. The BOF continues to make, as its top priority, the desire for the present parade route to remain in place and be incorporated into the Plan as a harmonious component of the Alamo's long history.

However, it appears that the Plan is being voted on by the Alamo Citizens Advisory Committee this Thursday, August 30th. As part of the Plan, Alamo Street is proposed to be permanently closed and leased to the State of Texas. We understand that there are several alternate parade route options including Crockett Street (behind the Alamo) or Losoya (and to the side of the Alamo.) Without the final and exact plans of the street improvements, the BOF is not prepared to choose a revised parade route at this time.

Notwithstanding the selection of an acceptable alternate parade route, the BOF is prepared to support the Plan as currently proposed as long as the following stipulations can be incorporated into the Plan, the Master Lease between the City and the State or as a separate agreement with the City.

1. Access (ingress and egress) to the chapel on the day of the parade each year for the ability of BOF members and cadets of The Academy or other such individuals to receive floral tributes at the south gate from parade entries. Allow the floral tributes to be laid on the lawn immediately

in front of the Alamo chapel. The floral tributes shall remain on the lawn for 24 hours and then removed by Alamo officials at the end of said time period. This also will include any security access as needed.

2. The ability to conduct the BOF parade's annual Pre-parade picnic on the grounds of the Alamo.
3. No other private events are allowed to be held on the Alamo grounds on BOF parade day.
4. The exclusive right of first refusal for all seating both inside and outside of the Alamo grounds.
5. The exclusive right to revenue generated for passes/tickets onto the Alamo grounds for parade viewing that the city and/or state may charge on the day of and during the parade event.
6. The BOF parade will receive \$1.00 from every chair seat ticket that is given to the Fiesta Commission.
7. Locations for parade bleacher and grandstand seating will be mutually agreed to by the BOF and the City of San Antonio ("City") as well as the State of Texas, which includes the General Land Office ("State"). BOF will maintain control of all of the seats in the Alamo grounds area.
8. The cost of storage, set up and removal of parade bleacher and grandstand seating will be not be charged to the BOF.
9. The BOF will endeavor to keep clean the parade locations directly in its areas of responsibility, but will not be charged by the City or the State for clean-up costs post parade.
10. The proposed "ceremonial activity zone" location and size will need to be customized in order to accommodate all of the parade entries, including the bands, as well as the seating.
11. The proposed "ceremonial viewing area" will have an unobstructed view of the Chapel from the floats, per the renderings presented by Councilman Treviño on August 26, 2018.
12. A detailed architectural design plan of the proposed "ceremonial activity zone" will be provided to BOF before final approval.

It is the desire of BOF to continue to work with Councilman Treviño, the designers, architects and managers of the Plan to arrive at mutually agreeable terms and consensus on the final Plan as it relates to the BOF parade route and all details related to the BOF parade.

We want to extend our deepest appreciation for the efforts you have extended to find an acceptable resolution of these issues. Your devotion to the City and particularly to your leadership for the Alamo Plaza project are highly commendable. Thank you for your patience and understanding. We look forward to working with you to complete this project.

Very truly yours,



Anna-Laura Block
President
Battle of Flowers Association

cc: Lori Houston, City of San Antonio
Byron LeFlore, Fiesta Commission