

MIRACLE MILE COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

Miracle Mile Holiday Parade Participant Handbook 2026

WELCOME & OVERVIEW

Our mission is to create a new holiday tradition for Stockton, spreading holiday cheer and community pride by providing a safe, enjoyable, and festival holiday parade for Stockton's community.

Each entry's representative is responsible for reading the Participant Handbook carefully and sharing the guidelines and rules with everyone in their group. Observing these guidelines and rules helps both spectators and participants enjoy a safe and festive experience.

IMPORTANT DATES

1. The Miracle Mile Holiday Parade will be held on **Friday December 4, 2026 from 6:30pm-8:80pm**
2. Applications will be available beginning **July 31, 2026** and can be filed online only at **www.stocktonmircalemile.com**. The deadline for entries is **November 13, 2026**.
3. Payment in full is required on or before **November 13, 2026**. Early Bird Registration Discount ends **September 1, 2025**.
4. Certificate of Liability Insurance must be emailed by **November 13, 2026**.
5. Mandatory Participant Meeting **November 20, 2026** at 6PM. Location TBD.

CONTACT INFORMATION

General Questions & Applications

Email: info@stocktonmiraclemile.com

For general parade inquiries and application-related questions.

Subject Line: **PARADE GENERAL**

Parade Management

Email: parademanager@stocktonmiraclemile.com

For matters that require management review or escalation.

Subject Line: **PARADE MANAGER**

Insurance

Email: insurance@stocktonmiraclemile.com

For insurance-related questions and to submit your Certificate of Insurance.

Subject Line: **PARADE INSURANCE**

PARADE ROUTE

The parade will begin near the intersection of Harding Way and Pacific Avenue and proceed northbound along Pacific Avenue. The final parade route and staging details are still being finalized and will be provided to all participants prior to the event.

ACCEPTANCE

MMCID will notify you by email if your application is accepted within 1-2 weeks. Placement in the Parade depends on available space in each category, entertainment value, uniqueness and the order in which the application is received. By completing an application to participate you understand that not all applications are selected for participation. Parade organizers reserve the right to deny an application or revoke an approved entry if the participant fails to comply with parade rules, safety requirements, or application terms.

INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

A Certificate of Liability Insurance must be emailed to insurance@stocktonmiraclemile.com by **November 13, 2026** listing the Miracle Mile Community Improvement District as additional insured.

Certificate Holder Address (The address for mailing certificates, endorsements and notices shall be):

Miracle Mile Community Improvement District

It's Officers, Officials, Employees, and Volunteers

PO BOX 4016

Stockton, CA 95209

Insurance Requirements:

1. General Liability Insurance limits \$1,000,000 Occurrence/\$2,000,000 Aggregate
2. Proof of Auto Liability Insurance covered under a Commercial Auto / Personal Auto Policy
3. Copy of driver's license for all drivers

MANDATORY PARADE MEETING

A representative and the vehicle operator for each accepted entry are required to attend a mandatory pre-parade meeting.

The meeting will cover participation requirements and answer questions. It will be held **November 20, 2026** at **6pm**. The meeting location is to be determined.

Entry Types

The parade is a non-competitive, community celebration. There is no judging and no awards. We welcome a variety of entries including:

- Floats
- Vehicles
- Non-Vehicles (marching, walking, cheering, dancing, bands)
- Dignitary
- Animal
- Other

WITHDRAWAL

If you must withdraw, notify the Parade Manager immediately at parademanager@stocktonmiraclemile.com. There are no refunds after **November 13, 2026**. Once you cancel, you may not rejoin the event. The Parade will go on rain or shine.

ENTRY SIZE

An entry - individual or group, unit, float, vehicle, band, or animal — whether walking, pulled, motorized, or powered in any way.

1. Walking/marching Entries: At the discretion of the Parade Committee
2. Floats are limited to a maximum of two (2) units per entry. One Float and one unit for towing if needed.
3. Vehicles (cars, pick-ups, etc.) are limited to a maximum of (3) unit per entry.
4. Motorcycle entries are limited to ten (10) units per entry.
5. Exceptions may be made for specialized teams only with advance approval of the Parade Manager.

EVENT FEES

1. Commercial or Professional Business: \$350.00
2. Government Agencies: \$350.00
3. Individual or Family (Non-Business): \$250.00 No commercial or professional representation or signage allowed with this entry type.
4. Non-Profit Entity: \$200.00. Any school, church, civic organization, or 501(c)(3) entity.
5. **Early Registration Discount of \$50.00 ends September 1, 2025.**

EVENT / PARADE SAFETY

1. Your participants must comply with all directions given by Parade Staff, Security guards, and law enforcement.
2. Candy and small trinkets may be distributed to spectators.
2. The following are never allowed:
 - The distribution of flyers, leaflets, coupons, brochures, or other paper promotional materials.
 - Do not throw any items into the crowd or onto the street.
 - Never get on or off, or in or out of, your entry once the Parade has started.
 - No one may be under the influence of alcohol or any mind- or mood-altering substance while participating.
 - No firearms (except as authorized by law) or explosives of any kind.
3. A warning will be given for minor violations; if compliance is not immediate, the participant will be removed without a refund. Serious violations may result in immediate removal and a report to on-site law enforcement.
4. Repeated violations, or any participant deemed a safety hazard, may be removed from the Parade without a refund.
5. No smoking or alcoholic beverages are allowed in, on, or about the participating individual or group before, during, or after the Parade. Safety comes first.

STAGING & SAFETY INSPECTION

1. All entries will be inspected for compliance in the pre-staging area by your assigned **Section Captain**. Pre-staging is only for safety inspection and to obtain your placement number. No working on floats during pre-staging, and one driver must be present at all times.
2. Floats and vehicles must arrive at pre-staging check point by **3:30pm** at the assigned PRE-STAGING Check point LOCATION. Your prestaging check point location will be email to you by **November 20th**.
3. When you arrive in your assigned pre-staging check point location, your section captain will assign your line-up number. The line-up order is final. You must stay in your assigned order unless your section captain redirects you.
4. Special exemption requests must be emailed to parademanager@stocktonmiraclemile.com with your reason and a cell phone number.
5. If you arrive late and you do not receive your line-up number, the float or vehicle may not be allowed in the parade. Depending on how late you are, you may be allowed to join at the end of your section. This is at the discretion of the section captain or parade manager.
6. All riders and participants must be present at pre-staging check point and during inspection. Riders cannot join after vehicles or floats leave pre-staging inspection. Please car pool to the event because parking is limited and you may not park non participating vehicles in the prestaging area. Participants must walk to the pre-staging area or be dropped off.

FLOAT & VEHICLE REQUIREMENTS

1. All drivers must have a valid driver's license. All floats/vehicles must be insured, registered, and in good operating condition.
2. At least two responsible adults (in addition to the driver) must be on any float/vehicle carrying children.
3. No one may get on or off a float/vehicle once it has started in the Parade. No dangling of legs over edges at any time.
4. All floats/vehicles must be within these maximum specifications:
 - Maximum trailer length: forty-five (45) feet.
 - Maximum width: eight and one-half (8½) feet.
 - Maximum height: fourteen (14) feet six (6) inches.
 - Any deviation must be approved in advance by the Parade Manager.
5. Two (2) Participant Monitors are required for every float/vehicle unit, walking beside the trailer with a clear view of all wheels. Reflective safety vests are required.
6. Flatbed or semi-trailers used to carry people must be skirted on both sides and the rear, at least down to axle height, for the full length.
7. Riders in a pick-up must be seated within the bed. Riders can never ride on the railing, and never standing while moving.
8. Flatbeds/trailers with riders must have secure 36" minimum safety railings on all sides, or riders must be secured to a stanchion the entire time the vehicle is moving.
9. Riders on motorized vehicles must be seated in seats designed for riders. Violations may disqualify you from future parades.
10. Riders must wait for floats/vehicles to come to a complete stop before boarding. After the float/vehicle has finished the parade and the vehicle has come to a complete stop only then can participants dismount.

WALKING / MARCHING

Walking participants must be at least 8 years old. Younger children may participate only if pulled in a wagon or cart. Each Entry must supply Walking Monitors who walk between the participants and the crowd, based on group size:

- 76–100 participants = 8 Walking Monitors
- 51–75 participants = 6 Walking Monitors
- 26–50 participants = 4 Walking Monitors
- 2–25 participants = 2 Walking Monitors

ANIMAL ENTRIES

1. All animal entries must have a person walking behind them for immediate clean-up of any waste.
2. All animals must be under the direct control of a handler using reins, leash, harness, or other safe tether.
3. Animals must be people-friendly and crowd-experienced, and must walk on the street only and never on or inside a float.

SOUND & LIGHTS

1. Sound amplification may be used for music only, not for addressing the audience. No speeches or campaigning of any kind. Systems must not exceed 90 decibels.
2. Holiday music is encouraged. Only holiday/seasonal music is allowed.
3. No horns, sirens, screeching noises, tire squealing, or loud exhaust. Violations may exclude you from future parades.
4. All entries must have holiday-style lights:
 - Floats/Vehicles: each participant must have lights. The more the merrier!
 - Non-vehicles: each participant must have lights.
 - Animal & Unique entries: each participant and/or entry must have lights.
 - Ensure generators/batteries work properly. Strobe lights are not allowed.

PARADE PROCESSION

1. A numbered placard provided at pre-staging must be visible at the front of your participating vehicle or group (for vehicles driver-side lower windshield corner for vehicles).
2. Help minimize gaps in the Parade. Section Leaders along the route may ask you to continue, slow down, or briefly stop, then resume at a safe pace. Participants moving too slowly may be asked to leave.
3. A gap 2 car spaces between participants is required at all times. (E.G. Between groups or floats or entries)
4. Drive in as straight a line as possible down the middle of the roadway. Irregular or unsafe driving is not allowed.

GENERAL RULES

1. Parade entries must be family friendly and appropriate to be seen by all ages.
2. Parents are responsible for their children at all times and are responsible for arranging to have children picked up at the end of the parade route.

3. Entries may identify their sponsor and/or builder by name only. No political advertising, promotion, or support of any candidate or cause is allowed.
4. Any interpretation or dispute regarding these rules rests solely with MMCID, and its decision is final.
5. By participating, every participant agrees to obey all rules herein.

Thank you to everyone preparing an entry. By submitting your application, you agree to all Parade rules and accept responsibility for the actions of all persons associated with your participation. Let's make it a safe, fun family night and a wonderful start to the holiday season!