



Staff Report

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the Town Council
FROM: Sean Rabé, Town Manager
DATE: August 9, 2022
RE: Taylor Road Closure for the 2022 Eggplant Festival.

Recommendation

Adopt a resolution authorizing the Town Manager to close Taylor Road to vehicular traffic from 7:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. on October 1st for the Eggplant Festival.

Issue Statement and Discussion

The 34th Annual Loomis Eggplant Festival will be held on October 1, 2022. In an effort to honor our history and highlight the businesses and ongoing improvements in the downtown corridor, the Loomis Chamber of Commerce is requesting that the Town close Taylor Road from Oak Street to Horseshoe Bar Road, as has been done the past few years, in order to allow vendors and exhibits to be set up on Taylor Road.

In 1987 the first Eggplant Festival was started with jazz music and an eggplant to poke fun at other fruit and vegetable events. The event grew in popularity and within a few years, Loomis was recognized as the Eggplant Capital of America. As well all know, the eggplant is the most-regal of all fruits (yes, eggplant is a fruit).

Originally the event was held on Taylor Road, where the vendors set up on the sidewalk and parking stalls adjacent to the roadway and the roadway was closed to vehicular traffic. The Festival continued to grow over the years as families looked to attend family friendly, small town events. The event grew and was moved to the two blocks between the Blue Goose to the High Hand fruit shed.

This year we will reserve the Magnolia Street parking lot for downtown business parking only. We will also block off South Walnut Street between Taylor Road and Magnolia Street, with parking along Main Street Drug reserved for Ace Hardware patrons.

More than 125 vendors and more than 7000 visitors are expected to enjoy this year's Eggplant Festival to celebrate 33 years of food, music, art, and family. This regional event is Loomis' trademark festival – having it on Taylor Road showcases not only our downtown, but also our local businesses.

CEQA Requirements

No environmental review is required for this action.

Financial and/or Policy Implications

There is not a direct fiscal impact.

Attachments

- A. Resolution

TOWN OF LOOMIS

RESOLUTION NO. 22 - XX

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF LOOMIS
AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO CLOSE TAYLOR ROAD
FOR THE EGGPLANT FESTIVAL**

WHEREAS, On October 1, 2022 the Loomis Chamber of Commerce will be hosting the 34th Loomis Eggplant Festival; and

WHEREAS, the Town and the Chamber wish to incorporate the Downtown Businesses and showcase those businesses and the improvements to the Downtown core; and

WHEREAS, closing Taylor Road from Oak Street to Horseshoe Bar Road to vehicular traffic will allow booths and exhibits to be set up in the road and allow pedestrians to safely move about the event; and

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Town Council of the Town of Loomis does hereby authorizes the Town Manager to close Taylor Road from Oak Street to Horseshoe Bar Road from 7:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. on October 1, 2022.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Council of the Town of Loomis this 9th day of August 2022 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAINED:

ABSENT:

Mayor

ATTEST:

Deputy Town Clerk