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City announces streets closures, from June 29 to July 4 for the 2011 Wawa Welcome America! festival

(Philadelphia June 24, 2011 – July 3, 2011) – City officials announced recently that street closures -- beginning **Wednesday, June 29 through Monday, July 4, 2011** -- near many special events during the ongoing Wawa Welcome America! Festival. Delays can be expected and motorists are advised to avoid or proceed with extreme caution in these areas beyond and during Independence Day.

The following includes information regarding street closures for the 2011 Wawa Welcome America! Festival:

Beginning at **9:30 AM Friday, June 24 until 9 AM Sunday, June 26**, Front and Chestnut streets will be closed. As a result, SEPTA buses will be detoured onto 4th and 5th streets.

Beginning at 7 PM on **Wednesday, June 29 through Monday, July 4**, Eakins Oval on the Benjamin Franklin Parkway will be closed on the west side (in front of the Philadelphia Museum of Art). All traffic will be diverted outbound onto Kelly Drive at 23rd Street. All inbound traffic will be diverted out Fairmount Avenue from Kelly Drive.

In preparation for July 4th events, on **Friday, July 1**, the 500 block of Chestnut Street will be closed, after the morning rush hour, at 9:30 AM, for the event set-up of staging and related equipment. The street will reopen at 3 PM for the evening rush hour and close again after 6:30 PM to allow for the completion of event equipment set-up. The street will remain closed Saturday, July 2, to allow for further set-up.

Beginning at 7AM for event set-up, on **Sunday, July 3**, the areas bordered from 9th to 11th streets and from Vine to Arch streets (listed below) will be closed for the Chinatown Block Party. The actual event runs between noon and 5 PM. All streets are expected to be opened by 6 PM.

- 10th Street, from Vine to Arch streets
- Race Street, from 9th to 11th streets

- Cherry Street, from 9th to 11th streets
- Appletree Street, from 9th to 11th streets
- Spring Street, from 9th to 11th streets

No street closures are planned during the concert and fireworks at Penn's Landing at the Great Plaza on **Saturday, July 3**; however Columbus Boulevard may be heavily congested during the fireworks display later in the evening

Friday, June 24

Taste of Philly (5PM – 9PM)
Penn's Landing at the Great Plaza

Chestnut Street viaduct closed at 8AM

Saturday, June 25

Taste of Philly (11AM – 10PM) and
Concert & Fireworks on Penn's Landing

Chestnut Street viaduct closed

Sunday, June 26

Taste of Philly (11AM – 7PM)

Chestnut Street viaduct closed until 8PM

Monday, June 27

Go 4th & Learn at Franklin Square,
6th and Race streets

No street closures.

Philly @ the Movies/Piazza,
Northern Liberties Section

No street closures.

Tuesday, June 28

Dell Music Center, Fairmount Park
Go 4th & Learn (10AM – 12PM)
Philly @ the Movies (9PM)

No street closures; however, traffic could become more congested than usual on Belmont Avenue.

Wednesday, June 29

Hoagie Day @ Independence Mall

No street closures.

Philly @ Movies, Philadelphia
Museum of Art vicinity

No street closures.

Thursday, June 30

Philly @ the Movies, Rittenhouse Square 18th Street, from Locust to Walnut streets will be closed to vehicular traffic from 6PM until about midnight.

Friday, July 1

Philly @ the Movies, Love Park
15th Street and JFK Boulevard
9PM

No street closures planned for this event.

July 4th Set-Up

500 Chestnut Street will remain closed for set-up of the stage and related equipment and for event rehearsals.

Saturday, July 2

Go 4th & Learn (11AM – 1PM)

Held at the Franklin Institute, N. 20th Street and Benjamin Franklin Parkway. No street closures are planned for this event.

Chinatown Block Party

Beginning at 7AM for set-up, the area bordered from 9th to 11th streets, and from Vine to Arch streets will be closed for the event. The actual event runs between noon and 4 PM. All streets are expected to be opened by 6 PM.

- 10th Street, from Vine to Arch streets
- Race Street, from 9th to 11th streets
- Cherry Street, from 9th to 11th streets
- Appletree Street, from 9th to 11th streets
- Spring Street, from 9th to 11th streets

Concert & Fireworks
on Penn's Landing (6PM – 9PM)

No street closures are planned; however, Columbus Boulevard may become impassable during the time of the fireworks show in the evening.

Sunday, July 3

July 4th Set-Up

500 Chestnut Street will be closed, beginning at 10 AM for the set-up of the stage and related equipment.

The inner drives of the Ben Franklin Parkway will be closed, beginning at 4PM and will remain closed until the conclusion of the concert and fireworks.

Monday, July 4 – Independence Day

Independence Ceremony/Parade,
Independence Mall vicinity

5th Street, from Walnut to Arch streets
6th Street, from Walnut to Arch streets
9th Street, from Walnut to Market streets
Chestnut, from Front (incl. Viaduct) to 10th streets
Market, from Front (incl. Viaduct) to 11th streets
Front, from Dock to Arch streets

Sons of the Revolution Parade,
Independence Mall area

Walnut, from Front to 6th streets
2nd Street, from Chestnut to Dock streets
38th Parallel, from Spruce to Dock streets

Party on the Parkway (12PM – 7PM)

Eakins Oval and all drives of the Benjamin Franklin Parkway will be closed at 6AM. Only authorized vehicles will be allowed into the area, between 20th & 25th streets, and Pennsylvania to Winter streets.

Concert & Fireworks,
(7PM – 10 PM)

There will be a perimeter established for vehicular traffic that will be bordered by 18th Street and Fairmount Avenue, and from JFK Boulevard to Spring Garden Street. Area residents and persons with authorized parking placards will be allowed within the perimeter, but others are advised to use public transportation or use parking outside of the perimeter.