

# Town Of Grand Island Celebrates Independence Day!

Let's Parade 2026 *(Parade approx. start time is 10am)*

**Fun and SAFE Event** – see rules regarding safety and distribution of items from units – no throwing candy or distribution of items from unit – this must be done along the side of the parade route.

## 2026 Town of Grand Island 4th of July Parade *Participant Lineup Information & Parade Regulations*

### Parade Overview

1. Start Time: Approximately 10:00 AM (after the Dick Bessel Run)
2. Route: Northbound on Grand Island Blvd (RT 324) from Staley Rd. to Baseline Rd.  
*(Route is ½ to 1 mile long depending on lineup location)*
3. Road Closures:
  - a. Grand Island Blvd & Baseline Rd. close at 8:30 AM. No traffic permitted after closure times.
4. Parking Advisory:
  - a. Vehicles may not park on the road of the parade route (corner of GI BLVD /Webb Rd. to Baseline Rd).
  - b. Vehicles parked at line up locations that are not in the parade must stay at their location until roads open.

### General Parade Rules

1. **Check-In, Line-Up, Drop-Off Instructions for North of Webb Road:**
  - a. The following applies to all units lining up North of Webb Road including at Marston Power Equipment, Financial Trust Credit Union, Speedway / Dunkin / Pizza Amore, New Life in Christ Ministries, VFW, or any other location North of Webb Road.
  - b. Roads close at 8:30 a.m. Arrive on time for check-in and staging. Participants should be dropped off at lineup areas before 8:30 AM
  - c. After roads close, drop-off must occur outside the route and participants must walk in. No vehicle traffic will be allowed onto the parade route after the roads close.
  - d. Parade officials will be at each line up location. They will line units up in proper order and direct them onto the parade route. Stay in your assigned position in the lineup.
2. **Check-In, Line Up, Drop-Off Instructions South of Webb Road (New 2025)**
  - a. The following applies ONLY to units at JACKSON MUSIC and LIFCO HYDRAULICS.
  - b. Units may arrive before the 8:30 a.m. road closures following normal regulations OR they may arrive between 8:30 a.m.- 9:30 a.m. with the following regulations:
    - i. Units arriving after 8:30 a.m. must enter on G.I. Blvd from the south. Enter at the road closure located at 1770 G.I. Blvd. GIPD and Recreation Staff will be checking vehicles. Only units entered in the parade at these two locations will be allowed past this point.
    - ii. ONLY vehicles and units in the parade will be allowed past this point. NO DROP OFFS and leaving after 8:30 a.m.
  - c. No traffic will be allowed past Webb Road after 8:30 a.m. All units must go to LIFCO Hydraulics or Jackson Music.
  - d. Parade officials will be at each line up location. They will line units up in proper order and direct them onto the parade route. Stay in your assigned position in the lineup.
3. **Distribution of Items – SAFETY FIRST:**
  - a. Do NOT throw candy or other items from vehicles or floats. We do not want spectators, especially young children, running into the parade route to pick up candy.
  - b. Items may be handed out only by walking unit members AT THE SIDE of the parade route.
  - c. Any unit observed throwing candy from their unit, creating unsafe conditions or not following rules will be escorted from the parade route if possible and will not be allowed to participate in following years.
  - d. Vehicle drivers must be licensed and alert.
  - e. Drive at walking pace only

**4. Decorum & Conduct, Maintain Dignity – Patriotic Celebration:**

- a. The parade is a patriotic celebration. Any disrespectful or inappropriate conduct may result in removal.
- b. All parade entries must reflect a patriotic theme or representation.
- c. No vulgar or offensive signs, music, behavior etc.
- d. All costumes and signs must be family-friendly.

**5. Floats and Vehicles**

- a. Must be roadworthy and safe.
- b. No fireworks or open flames or other safety hazards.
- c. Vehicle Height - ensure floats/vehicles do not exceed the height of power and cable lines

**6. Spacing**

- a. Maintain 10–20 feet behind the unit in front of you, or a distance that allows you to remain as close as possible to the unit in front of you in a safe manner. No closer than 10 feet.

**7. Forward Motion Only**

- a. Keep your unit moving forward at all times; do not stop for performances.
- b. Avoid creating gaps in the parade flow.

**8. Road Laws**

- a. All road laws apply before and after the parade (not during the parade route).

**9. Animals**

- a. Must be calm and under control.
- b. Bring a clean-up crew if animals are involved. Animal waste must be picked up.

**10. No Alcohol**

- a. Alcohol is strictly prohibited before and during the parade.

**11. Law Enforcement Oversight**

- a. Follow all instructions from law enforcement and parade officials.
- b. End of route monitored and controlled by police and road signaling devices.

**12. Emergency Protocol**

- a. In emergencies, **pull to the right** to let emergency vehicles pass.

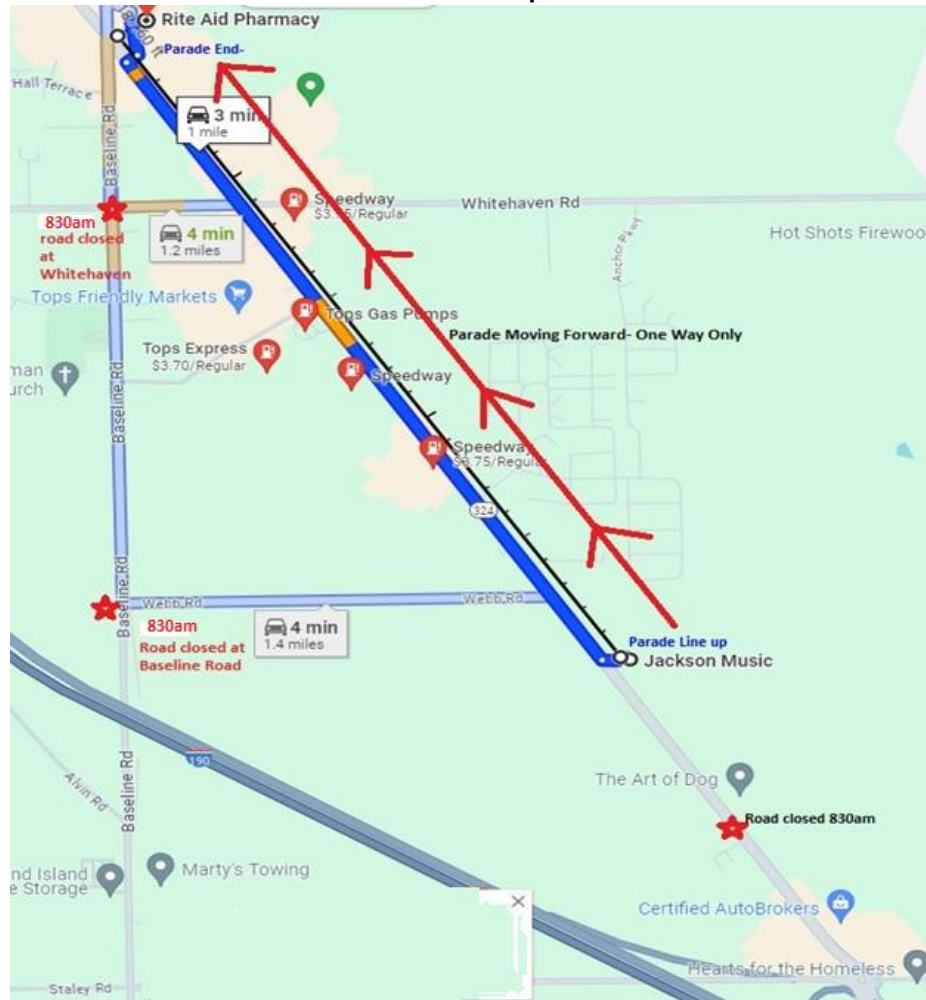
**13. Parade Check in and “No Show” Policy**

**Purpose:** This policy ensures a safe, timely, and organized experience for all participants and spectators. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated in helping us make the event enjoyable for everyone. To ensure the smooth coordination and success of the parade, all registered units are **required to check in at their assigned staging location** by the designated time provided in the event instructions.

**Policy Details:**

- Check-In Requirement: All units must arrive and check in with a Rec. Staff member, at their assigned location prior to the start of the parade.
- Failure to Check In: Units that do not check in on time with Rec. Staff will be considered a “No Show.”
- Consequences for No Shows:
  - The write up will be removed from the announcers list.
  - The unit may be ineligible to participate in future parades or community events hosted by the Recreation Department.

## Parade Map



### **\*\*Parade Spectator Policy (General public)**

To ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for all participants and spectators, please follow these guidelines:

1. **Stay Off The Parade Route**
  - All spectators must remain on the side of the parade route.
  - Do not enter the parade route or cross the roadway during the parade.
2. **No Approaching Parade Units**
  - For your safety, do not enter into the parade route or approach moving vehicles, floats, performers, or animals.
3. **Children Supervision**
  - Children must be supervised by an adult at all times.
  - Keep children safely away from the parade route and moving units.
4. **Animals**
  - All pets must be leashed and under control.
  - Do not allow pets near the parade route or performers.
5. **No Confrontations**
  - Maintain respectful behavior toward staff, participants, volunteers, and fellow spectators.
  - Aggressive or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated and may result in removal from the event.

**\*\*Thank you for helping us keep the parade safe and enjoyable for everyone!**