

GENERAL QUESTIONS

What is RAGBRAI?

RAGBRAI stands for the Register's Annual Great Bicycle Ride Across Iowa. It is a bicycle event, the world's largest touring bicycle event, with tens of thousands of participants from all over the world.

Why are we doing / allowing a RAGBRAI event to take place?

The event is taking place in an effort to showcase our awesome community and for our local businesses and organizations to have a chance to earn dollars to help make our community even stronger.

Who or what is Celebrate Norwalk?

Celebrate Norwalk LLC is the official name of the RAGBRAI committee that is organizing the RAGBRAI event in Norwalk on Tuesday, July 23.

When is RAGBRAI and how many riders will participate?

RAGBRAI will come through Norwalk on July 23, 2019. It is expected that between 10,000 and 15,000 bike riders will participate. An additional 10,000 – 15,000 people are also expected to come to Norwalk during the event.

What is the route for RAGBRAI?

The riders will enter Norwalk on G14/North Ave from Cumming and continue straight through Norwalk until they reach R63/SW9th on the east end of town. The riders will then turn south on R63 to ride to Indianola.

Where is the RAGBRAI event going to take place?

All Celebrate Norwalk approved activities will take place in Downtown Norwalk at the intersection of North Ave and Main Street and in City Park including the Library campus.

What will happen at the RAGBRAI event?

There will be food and beverage sales, games, photo opportunities with local heroes and a band stage with the following acts:

9:30 am to 11:00 am Dan Trilk and Trilk School of Rock

11:00 am to 1:30 pm Pianopalooza – Dueling Pianos

1:30 pm to 4:45 pm Punching Pandas

During band breaks spectators will enjoy Fire Baton twirling from Norwalk Twirlers.

How can I volunteer to help?

Please sign up here to be a volunteer:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0a4cabaa2aa5f85-ragbrai>

ADMINISTRATION, ORGANIZATION AND AUTHORITY QUESTIONS

Who is doing the planning for this event?

A committee was formed to organize and plan for the event. The RAGBRAI committee is called Celebrate Norwalk LLC.

Who is volunteering on the Celebrate Norwalk Committee?

The committee is comprised of Norwalk residents who are volunteering their time to plan the event to showcase Norwalk to everyone who visits. The committee members are:

- Jaki Livingston, City Council Member and Co-Chair
- Jim Lane, Norwalk resident, business owner and Co-Chair
- Lucinda Sperry, Norwalk resident and Chamber of Commerce Director
- Donna Grant, Norwalk resident and business owner
- Luke Nelson, City Manager
- Greg Staples, Chief of Police
- Ryan Coburn, Fire Chief
- Hollie Zejicek, Norwalk Economic Development Director
- Judy Corcoran, Norwalk resident and community volunteer
- Travis Stanley, Norwalk resident and Pastor at Norwalk Christian Church

Are there rules or ordinances governing what will be allowed during the RAGBRAI event?

Yes, the Norwalk City Council enacted legislation on May 16, 2019, that establishes authority to conduct a RAGBRAI event. The ordinance can be found

here: http://www.norwalk.iowa.gov/UserFiles/Servers/Server_6519743/File/Ordinance%2019-09.pdf

Are volunteers still needed?

Yes, if you would like to volunteer, please sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0a4cabaa2aa5f85-ragbrai>

FINANCIAL QUESTIONS

How much money does the City expect to make from hosting a RAGBRAI visit?

The City expects to earn Zero Dollars. The City of Norwalk does not collect any revenue from the event. In fact, the City will spend money to help facilitate the event without expectation for re-payment. The City provided Celebrate Norwalk LLC, \$2,000 in seed money. The City is also providing all public safety services and public works services needed for a successful event.

Why would the City spend tax dollars on an event such as RAGBRAI?

The City feels that tax dollars spent to support the RAGBRAI event will translate into positive promotion of the City that will provide for future economic growth. The City feels that it is the right thing to do to help support local businesses and nonprofit organizations who are participating in the event. The City also has a duty to provide for the public safety of those participating and attending the event.

How much money will The RAGBRAI committee, Celebrate Norwalk LLC, make because of the event?

It is hoped that Celebrate Norwalk will break even on the event. Vendor fees and Sponsorship dollars are planned to be sufficient to cover the costs of things such as band fees, stage rentals, portable restrooms, electricity generators and trash collection. Celebrate Norwalk LLC was created to provide the infrastructure for the vendors and local organizations who are participating in the event.

Where does any "profit" that Celebrate Norwalk LLC (RAGBRAI Committee) earns go?

IF celebrate Norwalk earns a profit, funds will be given to the city to reimburse expenses.

Will anyone earn a profit from the RAGBRAI event?

Hopefully, all of the vendors and organizations who submitted applications to Celebrate Norwalk LLC for the privilege to participate in the event and paid vendor fees will earn money.

What kind of Volunteer opportunities are there?

We still are in need of people to help with parking, sign making, giving directions and other general duties. If you want to help out please sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0a4cabaa2aa5f85-ragbrai>

ROAD CLOSURE AND TRAFFIC DETOUR QUESTIONS

Where is the RAGBRAI event going to take place?

All Celebrate Norwalk approved activities will take place in Downtown Norwalk at the intersection of North Ave and Main Street and in City Park including the Library campus.

Is there a map showing roads that are closed?

Yes. You can find the map here:

<https://warrenia.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=170f5cbf8d5443d19f1993cb42f659ee>

Are roads going to be closed because of RAGBRAI?

Yes.

North Ave from HWY 28 to Cherry Parkway will be CLOSED to all traffic from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm on July 23rd.

Main Street from City State Bank to Norwalk Christian Church will be closed from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm on July 23rd

Center Street from South Ave to North Ave will be closed from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm on July 23rd

G14 / North Ave from Linden Street to HWY 28 will be closed from approximately 9:00am to 5:00 pm

See map

here: <https://warrenia.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=170f5cbf8d5443d19f1993cb42f659ee>

Are any other roads going to be closed or have travel restricted because of RAGBRAI?

Yes.

Beginning at approximately 6:00 am there will be no access to I35 in Cumming from G14. The City of Cumming is closing the road. Access to I35 from Norwalk must be made via HWY 5 North of Norwalk, HWY 92 in Martensdale or by using gravel roads around downtown Cumming. G14 / North Ave will have restricted travel in Norwalk. All vehicles are requested to find alternate routes and avoid G14 / North Ave. Officers will be directing traffic at Orilla Road and 50th Street to ensure only local traffic is on the road. Local traffic means residents who must access their homes or work via G14/North Ave.

All vehicle traffic on G14 / North Ave should travel in an easterly direction, with the flow of bicycles. For safety purposes vehicles should not drive on G14 / North Ave westerly or against the flow of bicycles.

There will be no access to or from HWY 28 onto G14 / North Ave.

All cars travelling east on North Ave must exit prior to HWY 28. There is no access to HWY 28 from North Ave.

There will be no left turns onto North Ave from the following streets:

- 50th Ave
- Aussie Lane
- Dogwood Lane
- Sycamore Drive
- Aspen Drive
- Kitterman Circle

There will be no right turns onto North Ave from Linden Street and Redwood Drive

I live on Kitterman Circle how do I get to work during RAGBRAI?

At the intersection of North Ave you will need to turn right and then turn left onto Redwood or Linden and then you can get onto HWY 28 from there.

I always get my coffee at Casey's on my way to work. Can I still do that?

Yes, Casey's will be open but when you leave you will not be able to access HWY 28 from North Ave. You will have to exit across North onto Linden Street.

I live or am a contractor in the Timber View Development; can I get to and from my house during RAGBRAI?

Yes, but we ask that all traffic on G14 /North Ave drive in an easterly direction so that cars are not traveling against the bicycle traffic. You would need to leave the neighborhood east on G14 / North Ave and then exit G14 / North as soon as possible. On your return you should enter G14 / North Ave from Orilla Road.

I live in Orchard Hills. How do I get to Downtown Des Moines?

Since traffic on G14 / North Ave is restricted and there is no access to HWY 28 from North Ave, you should exit the Orchard Hills development via Elm Ave to HWY 28 and then go north to Des Moines from there.

I live on North Ave in the area of City Park. How do I get out to go to work or the store?

Celebrate Norwalk has reserved parking spaces at the High School for those who do not have vehicle access to their homes during the event. Celebrate Norwalk committee members will be in touch before the event to make sure there are no special needs for residents affected by the road closures.

I'd like to volunteer, how do I get in touch with someone to sign up?

You can sign up to be a volunteer here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0a4cabaa2aa5f85-ragbrai>

PARKING QUESTIONS

Is there a place for RAGBRAI Support Vehicles to park?

RAGBRAI support vehicles (busses, campers Vans etc) should park at the middle school complex on Cherry St. Access to this area is off of Wright Rd. Please see official RAGBRAI event information in reference to this. The middle school complex is reserved for RAGBRAI support busses and other vehicles.

I live in Des Moines and want to attend the event. Where do I park?

There are various lots around Norwalk where people can park and walk to the event. Please see the map link of the locations. You should park here:

<https://warrenia.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7b264ac465c14827a96d7803387059c4>

I live in Norwalk and want to attend the event. Where do I park?

If possible park in your driveway and walk or bike to the event. Otherwise see the map link here and park in designated areas. You should park here:

<https://warrenia.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7b264ac465c14827a96d7803387059c4>

I am a volunteer. Where do I park?

Please park in the specially reserved locations. See the map link here for these lots. You should park here:

<https://warrenia.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7b264ac465c14827a96d7803387059c4>

I'm going to start or end my RAGBRAI ride in Norwalk. Is there a place to be dropped off or picked up?

Drop off and pick up of riders leaving or starting their RAGBRAI ride should be done in the parking lot of the Norwalk United Methodist Church located at 1801 Sunset Dr.

VENDING QUESTIONS

How do I get a vending permit to sell items during RAGBRAI?

The deadline to file for a permit has passed.

I live on the route, or have a friend who lives on the route, can I set up a vendor booth on my property to sell items?

No. All vending must be previously approved by Celebrate Norwalk LLC, through a vendor application, the deadline for which has passed

Who are the vendors that will be there selling food etc?

A list of the approved vendors can be found here: <https://www.norwalkchamber.net/ragbrai-norwalk.html>