

Working with your Police Department and other Municipal Services

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February 7, 2014



Dealing with Municipal Officials

- Involve the police, fire, community development, public works or other planning departments early on in the process.
- Know the local codes and ordinances for special events.

Knowing the local codes will help you. Why?

- Determines the number of police officers or other municipal services you will need for your event.
 - This impacts your overall costs.
 - Tight municipal budgets have greatly reduced the number of “freebies”.
 - What road closures are needed?
 - Detour routes?
 - Notification of area businesses and residents

Development of Contingency Plans and Alternative Routes

- Examples:
 - Itasca Oktoberfest 12K (1992)
 - Chicago Marathon (2007)
 - Lake in the Hills Tri (2008)
 - Itasca “*Run from the Cops*” 5K (2009)
 - Itasca Fest (2009)
 - Indiana State Fair (2010)

Sugarland Concert-Indiana State Fair

What Happened Here????



What other events are you competing against?

- Within the municipality?
- Within the area?
- Remember, you're competing for scarce resources...

A police perspective

- #1 Priority is **SAFETY!**
 - Safety of the participants
 - Safety of the staff
 - Safety of the volunteers
 - Safety of the spectators
 - Safety of pedestrians
 - Safety of motorists

More about safety...

- Safety of participants
 - Develop an Incident Action Plan
 - Should include:
 - Identification of one race director.
 - Establishment of a command post. *“The Alamo”*
 - Identifying key personnel
 - Developing a communication plan.
 - Safety of staff and volunteers. Safety vests?
 - Everyone thoroughly briefed.
 - Everyone knows their role and responsibilities

More about safety...

- Safety of motorists
 - Information signs posted. “*Race in Progress*”
 - Are there detours? Are they posted?
 - Does your staff and volunteers know the detour route?
 - Murphy’s Law – Someone will need to get where you’re not allowing them. How will you address this???

More about safety...

- Flow of traffic
 - Vehicle speeds should be kept to a minimum.
 - Try to inconvenience the public as little as possible.
 - Avoid bottlenecks of runners and traffic.
 - Avoid busy highways, streets and busy areas if possible
 - Plan your route to minimize the mixing of cars and participants.

More about safety...

- Is there easy access for emergency vehicles?
 - Police
 - Fire
 - Ambulance
 - Public Works

More about safety...

- Be mindful of other community events occurring.
 - Churches
 - Gas Stations
 - Access to stores and retail establishments
 - Starbucks
 - Whatever

Some final thoughts...

“Noah didn’t build the Arc when it was raining”

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Successful events take planning,
planning and more planning.