



*There's a lot to like about Lowell*

To: Eileen Donahue, City Manager

From: Eric Lamarche, Director of Veterans Services

Date: April 1, 2022

RE: Req. City Mgr. With Veterans Commission Provide Update Regarding The Laying Of Wreaths And American Flags At All Veteran Poles And Squares, As Well As, A Parade On Memorial Day 2022

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Eric Lamarche

Director

Carmen Felix

Head Clerk

Nancy McGuire

Dear Madam Manager,

In response to the above mentioned motion. I have met with CC. Yem regarding the Patriotic Bows that we will place on all veterans' signs belonging to those Killed in Action. I showed CC Yem the Bows and he was pleased with the plan. Due to safety concerns, we have requested the use of a City vehicle that is sufficient to safely reach each sign, for placement of the patriotic bows. It is also suggested that there is a police vehicle to follow, as most of these locations are within intersections.

In regards to a Memorial Day parade, The City of Lowell would support a Parade to honor those veterans who sacrificed lives for the very freedom we enjoy today. It is important to note, that similar to the City of Lights parade, and other events, the Memorial Day parade would be organized by outside sources. Due to the complex nature of such an event, requiring fundraising, logistics, and overall planning, this event will require extensive planning.

In reference to the newly created Heroes banner program, we are hopeful that we can begin erecting the banners in May of this year. However, this is completely dependent on the receipt of completed applications, photos and sponsorship. The banners will take approximately 6 weeks from the placement of the order to produce. As this will be of first year, we will use this as an opportunity to strengthen the application process, criteria and overall integrity of the program. As of now, we have received 3 applications with sponsorship. There are 18 available banners (36 if we receive enough interest, using double sided brackets.) It is my suggestion, that similar to the Veterans Memorial Squares, we include that committee in the approval process as well as the creation of specific criteria.

Respectfully,

Eric Lamarche