

Home	Community Calendar	Support Us	Business Profiles	Get Our Daily Emails	Advertise	About Us	Topics	Gentilly	Mid-City	<input type="text" value="Custom Search"/>	<input type="button" value="Search"/>
----------------------	------------------------------------	----------------------------	-----------------------------------	--------------------------------------	---------------------------	--------------------------	------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--	---------------------------------------

Jan 31 2020

Mardi Gras 2020 has some new and revised rules: Port-o-lets, prohibited throws, ladders and parade elements

Posted by UptownMessenger.com at 10:54 am city government, Mardi Gras



Under the regulations, all riders will have to take their beads of the bag before throwing them. (Zach Brien, Uptown Messenger file photo)

By Sue Strachan, Uptown Messenger

Need to go to the bathroom during a parade?

For Carnival 2020, parade-goers might have to walk farther to use private port-o-lets on trucks parked in the streets.

This was part of one of two ordinances passed unanimously Thursday (Jan. 30) by the City Council “updating sections of the Municipal Code that address Mardi Gras regulations, clarifying parade terms and codifying reforms,” states a City Council press release.

Amended ordinance (Sec. 154-985 of the Code of the City of New Orleans) “Prohibits parking of a ‘box truck, cargo van, truck with a port-a-let, camper, recreational vehicle, or trailer within two blocks of a parade route between four hours before and four hours after.’”

For port-o-lets, this means that anyone who rents one and puts it in a flatbed truck or U-Haul cannot leave it overnight. In the past, people have left the truck on the street for both weekends and the days in between. Offenders can get fined or towed.

This was a big concern at a [recent meeting of the Delachaise Neighborhood Association](#), which is bounded by Carondelet and South Saratoga streets, and Louisiana Avenue and Marengo Street, and is represented by District B Councilman Jay Banks, who sponsored the measures.

Within the boundaries is Constantinople Street off St. Charles Avenue, which has become the epicenter for parade parties, particularly those with trucks bearing port-o-lets. Couches are often off-loaded as well, creating an unwanted mini-party, residents said.

What’s not banned? Renting port-o-lets and putting them on private property, business property or a public-right-of-way, though a permit is required. Public port-o-lets set up by the

Subscribe to our mailing list

Subscribe

Recent Comments

- [House District 98 candidates on property taxes, gun control, prescription drug prices, auto insurance rates and more – Uptown Messenger – Used Car For Sale on Video: Meet the House District 98 candidates](#)
- [Historic NOLA district may see 2-suite boutique hotel | Commercial Construction and Renovation on Small hotel planned for empty lot in Lower Garden District <http://bit.ly/2UOV7uW> – Stellar Posh on New Orleans police to conduct driver sobriety checks tonight](#)
- [Morning Digest: Republican Mark Harris further implicated in North Carolina election fraud scheme | Voice of the Highway on Danae Columbus: Skrmetta and Boustany, two new contenders for governor’s race?](#)
- [Morning Digest: Republican Mark Harris further implicated in North Carolina election fraud scheme – Headlines on Danae Columbus: Skrmetta and Boustany, two new contenders for governor’s race?](#)

Latest headlines from MidCityMessenger.com

- [Suspect sought in killing of 77-year-old in Fairgrounds Triangle \(video\)](#)
- [This Week at The Broad: Spring Cleaning](#)
- [Viewpoint: Criminals are in control because of NOPD officer shortages, Cannizzaro says](#)

Tags

city on key spots on the parade routes will return, so those living on the route hopefully won't find their yards used as bathrooms.

Before the voted, District A Councilman Joe Giarrusso asked that an amendment be made not banning these port-o-lets, but to allow people to apply for a permit, so the city could keep track of who is in renting it. This change to the amendment was declined in a vote.

During the discussion about it, Council members Karen Gisleson Palmer and Jason Williams voiced concerns — Palmer over the extra work for the New Orleans Police Department checking permits while already stretched thin patrolling the parade route, Williams bringing up safety concerns, stating that New Orleans is one of the “softest targets in the U.S.” for terrorism due to the amount of big events here.

Collin Arnold, director of Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness said the Homeland Security’s special events director will be at the parades to assess current and future risk.

In the past, Homeland Security has treated Mardi Gras as “one day instead of 12 days of events,” said Arnold.

This is the first year that Mardi Gras has received a level 2 [special event assessment rating](#), or SEAR, 2 level city, giving it federal resources for protection. The expectation of this is to move the city to SEAR 1 level, like the Rose Parade, and get more federal resources for protection during Mardi Gras. The rating, with SEAR 1 the greatest, uses methodology to consider the threat, vulnerability, and consequences for each event.

“Many thanks to everyone who was a part of creating this collaborative ordinance, including the Office of Homeland Security, Sanitation Department, mayor’s staff, City Council staff, as well as members of the Mayor’s Mardi Gras Advisory Committee,” Banks said. “These provisions will help ensure a safe Carnival environment for all to enjoy, free of obstructions and other security risks.”

Also on the brought before the City Council to amend and reordain Sections 34-1, 34-2, 34-14, 34-28, 34-30, 34-32, 34-33 and 34-34 of the Code of the City of New Orleans relative to Carnival and Mardi Gras.

This includes prohibited throws, parade elements such as bands and dance troupes, walking parades, and ladders and tents.

• The “prohibited throws” section was updated to prohibit parade riders from throwing: “single use plastic bags meant for throw packaging or paper streamers, or paper products that do not biodegrade when wet, or empty single-use plastic bags. Any package containing bulk throws, including but not limited to doubloons, beads, cups, trinkets, or toys shall be handed to parade attendees and shall not be thrown or tossed. Bulk throws shall be removed from any plastic packaging before being thrown or tossed.” This was proposed to help battle litter along the route, as well as alleviate the possibility of parade participants slipping on the plastic.

• “Elements” of a parade are now defined as “any marching band, military bands, dance club, walking club, riding club, or dance troupe in a Mardi Gras float parade larger than a group of fifteen participants, not including chaperones, helpers, support vehicles and public safety vehicles.”

Limits were placed on the number of elements, with a maximum of 12 before the first float, and only one element between each float.

• Mardi Gras Day walking parades are limited to the six existing parades.

• All ladders and/or personal items left on the public right-of-way must be removed four hours or more before a parade, and at the end of the final parade that same day. Ladders cannot be chained together. The use of ropes, spray paint or other similar items to create a barricade or otherwise obstruct passages along public property, unless otherwise specifically authorized, is prohibited. Enclosed tents are now prohibited on sidewalks and neutral grounds.

Sorry, the comment form is closed at this time.

- [New Orleans Film Society](#)
- [NOLA College Prep Johnson package theft](#)
- [Sewerage and Water Board](#)
- [Annunciation parks and greenspace](#)
- [Hurstville parade Cohen carjacking](#)
- [Claiborne Tchoupitoulas Newman](#)
- [Upper Hurstville fundraisers theft](#)
- [Encore Maple Prytania Theatre](#)
- [Garden District Saints Broadmoor](#)
- [Hollygrove Letters to the editor](#)
- [Robbery Sophie B. Wright](#)
- [Shopkeeper Stories Tipitina's](#)
- [Lower Garden District](#)
- [community meetings Oak homicide](#)
- [Coliseum Square Stacy Head](#)
- [This Week at The Broad](#)
- [Irish Channel armed robbery Milan](#)
- [parades jewel bush Festivals](#)
- [Kristine Froeba Photo-story](#)
- [shooting St. Charles Lusher](#)
- [Loyola University New Orleans](#)
- [Christy Lorio second line Carrollton](#)
- [Audubon-Riverside Audubon Park](#)
- [LFNO Audubon Charter](#)
- [Central City Congress recognition](#)
- [International School Craig Giesecke](#)
- [land use & development Magazine](#)
- [Susan Guidry Danae Columbus](#)
- [Jean-Paul Villere Tulane](#)
- [UptownMessenger.com Carnival](#)
- [environment Katz and Columbus](#)
- [LaToya Cantrell Mardi Gras](#)
- [church Owen Courrèges weather](#)
- [flood protection and drainage](#)
- [recovery film and television](#)
- [Uncategorized health Freret](#)
- [blight and demolition court](#)
- [sports and recreation](#)
- [state government transportation](#)
- [colleges good works Featured](#)
- [elections](#)
- [neighborhood groups](#)
- [Advertiser specials](#)
- [food and drink](#)
- [arts, books and music](#)
- [schools politics opinion](#)
- [business events](#)
- [city government](#)
- [crime](#)
- [public safety](#)