



# City of Cincinnati

Date: August 22, 2008



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Martha L. Kelly, P.E.  
 Transportation and Engineering  
 Acting City Traffic Engineer  
[martha.kelly@cincinnati-oh.gov](mailto:martha.kelly@cincinnati-oh.gov)

## DOWNTOWN STREETS OPEN FOR RIVERFEST Parking Available in Garages and Lots AUGUST 31, 2008

Over a quarter of a million people will make their way to the Cincinnati Riverfront this year to enjoy several entertainment venues, including the City's annual Riverfest celebration which will include the spectacular Cincinnati Bell/WEBN Fireworks. The annual Kirk Herbstreit Football Classic will be at Paul Brown Stadium beginning at 11 AM. The Cincinnati Reds will face off with the San Francisco Giants at Great American Ballpark at 12:35 PM. The Fireworks show will take place on Sunday, August 31<sup>st</sup> at approximately 9 PM.

For 2008, a new traffic plan will be in place that will keep most Downtown streets open throughout the day so that visitors can experience the excitement of Downtown including Fountain Square, restaurants and other destinations throughout Downtown.

Please be aware of pedestrians and obey all directions of the Cincinnati Police Officers as we work to make this year's Riverfest a safe and enjoyable experience for all. Everyone is encouraged to plan ahead and keep the following traffic tips in mind:

- Know Where to Go
- Get There Early
- Use Public Transportation, when possible

### **KNOW WHERE TO GO**

Access to the Cincinnati Riverfront will be limited to pedestrians only. Third Street will be open so people can access points throughout Downtown. All streets north of Third Street will be open to vehicular traffic. Downtown will be open to all parking garages from Third Street north. There will be no available on-street parking throughout the downtown area, south of Court Street, after 11 AM Sunday.

The Clay Wade Bailey Bridge, Suspension Bridge, Purple Pedestrian Bridge and the Taylor Southgate Bridge will all close at 6:00 PM to all traffic. The streets to Mt. Adams will also be closed at 6:00 PM. The Daniel Carter Beard Bridge (I-471) will close to all traffic at 7:00 PM. Eastbound Columbia Parkway, from 2<sup>nd</sup> St, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> St exits from Westbound Columbia parkway and I-71/I-471, will close at 8:00 PM.

It is recommended that everyone coming to the Riverfront take advantage of the many convenient parking facilities located throughout the downtown areas and walk to the Riverfront.

### **Parking**

Parking is available in the many lots and garages north of Third Street. Additional parking lots are located north and west of Paul Brown Stadium. Cash parking will be available in riverfront surface lots in the vicinity of Paul Brown Stadium on a limited first come, first served basis. Please note that construction sites in and around the riverfront are off limits for public parking. Sites will be clearly marked and secured, and anyone parking in these areas will be towed.

### **GET THERE EARLY**

People from all over the region will be coming to enjoy the festivities. Those getting downtown early will have a better chance of finding premium parking in Riverfront lots, securing good vantage points for the fireworks show and avoiding delays from heavy traffic.

### **USE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION**

As an alternative to driving, fans are encouraged to use public transportation to obtain quick and convenient access to the downtown area. The Southbank Shuttle, operated by the Transit Authority of Northern Kentucky (TANK), will transport fans from Northern Kentucky. For more information about the Southbank Shuttle as well as the Transit Authority of Northern Kentucky, contact TANK at (859) 331-TANK or visit [www.tankbus.org](http://www.tankbus.org). Metro will be running a normal operating schedule, but will also be operating special shuttles for the Riverfront events. For more information, call MetroCenter at (513) 621-4455 or visit [www.sorta.com](http://www.sorta.com).

For more information about the Department of Transportation and Engineering, visit [www.cincinnati-oh.gov/dote](http://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/dote)