

Our File/N/Réf. 03 07-98-0095
Your File/V/Réf.

DATE 24 March 1998

TO/DEST. Transportation Committee

FROM/EXP. Councillor Diane Holmes

SUBJECT/OBJET **RESPONSE TO COUNCIL DECISION RE SPECIAL EVENTS
POLICY - THE EASTER SEAL PARADE COMMITTEE**

REPORT RECOMMENDATION

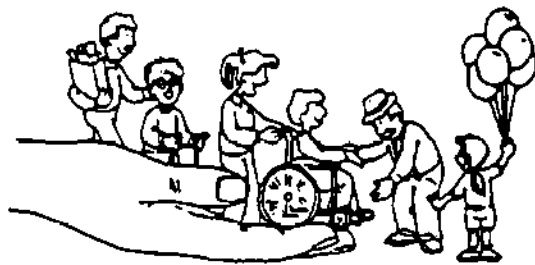
For discussion.

BACKGROUND

The attached letter dated 23 February 1998 from the Easter Seal Parade Committee is in response to a recent decision by Council with respect to Special Events on Regional roads.

This is for the consideration of the Transportation Committee.

*Approved by
Councillor Diane Holmes*



The Easter Seal Parade Committee

684 Farmbrook Crescent,
Orleans, Ontario K4A 2L2
Ph. 834-7939 - Fax 834-8166
February 23rd, 1998



Councillor Diane Holmes,
Chair, Regional Transportation Committee,
R.M.O.C.

Dear Councillor Holmes,

I am writing with regards to the Regional Transportation Committee meeting of Feb. 4, 1998 where the policy for Special Events on Regional Roads was discussed.

I specifically refer to the proposal for a departmental budget for the purpose of newspaper advertising and rerouting signs. At the Feb. 4th meeting the budget item was referred over to the Regional Budget Committee Meeting (in May?).

The Easter Seal Parade is different from other parades in that it has no major sponsor, and is operated solely by volunteers, from the committee level down to the 800 participants. It would be a major hardship for these costs to be downloaded to it; possibly enough to force cancellation of the event.


The Easter Seal Parade has always issued several press releases in advance of the parade. As a result of that it has always had newspaper advertising describing the route (sample attached) provided free, as a community service. It seems unfair for us to start paying for what hard volunteer work has generated for free.



Hundreds of children with disabilities look forward to this parade annually as their chance to be in the spotlight. For many of them there are few opportunities to shine and be looked upon with envy by more able-bodied kids.

I would respectfully request that you take these matters into consideration before making decisions that might cause this event to be cancelled.

Sincerely,



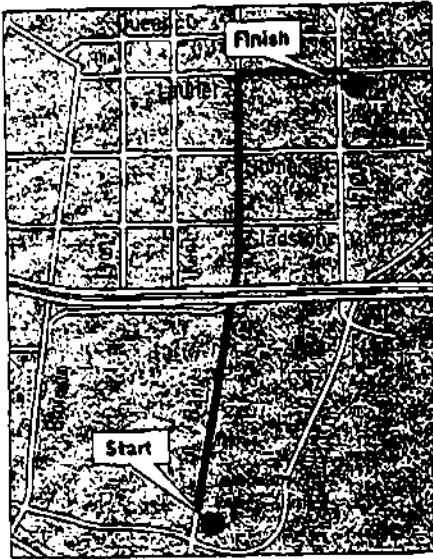
Marilyn M. Dow
Co-Chair Easter Seal Parade

c.c. Councillors: Herb Kreling
Richard Cantin
Molly McGoldrick-Larsen
Madeleine Meilleur
Jacques Legendre
Linda Davis
Clive Doucet
Wendy Byrne

By-Law Administration Dept., R.M.O.C.

SATURDAY PICKS

Things to do this weekend



THE OTTAWA CITIZEN

EASTER PARADE

Hip-hop down to the fourth annual Easter Seal parade tomorrow. There are more than 70 entries in this year's procession. It starts at Lansdowne Park at 10:45 a.m., travels north on Bank Street and east on Laurier Avenue to regional headquarters for a party with live children's entertainment and refreshments, from noon to 2:30 p.m. Members of the Kiwanis Club of Orléans, main sponsor of the parade, will collect donations along the way for the Easter Seal Society.



About Our Cover...

The 4th annual Easter Seal Parade is coming Sunday, March 23rd. Starting at Lansdowne Park at 11 a.m., and going north on Bank Street and east on Laurier, the parade is a public showcase designed to raise awareness for children with disabilities by demonstrating their "abilities." The parade highlights many local children with decorated wheelchairs, along with a host of bands, floats, horses and flying moose. There will be something for everyone, including, of course, the Easter Bunny!

EASTER SEAL SOCIETY

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Ottawa PARENT

... source for Ottawa and area parents

512 1235573

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Easter parade gives kids a lift

Disabled children will be the big winners when the fourth annual Easter Seals parade winds its way through downtown Ottawa today.

The Sun's Page 6 columnist Steve Madely will serve as Grand Marshal for the parade, which is held to raise money and awareness for

children with disabilities, many of whom will be participating in the event.

The parade will include an array of floats, marching bands and even an appearance by the Easter Bunny.

It begins at 10:45 a.m. at Lansdowne Park, will continue north along Bank St. and

then turn east on Laurier and end at the Regional Municipality of Ottawa-Carleton headquarters by noon.

Last year, the parade took in \$4,000, which is used by more than 400 families in the region with disabled children to help offset the cost of equipment and travel.