



DOWNTOWN UPDATE

UPCOMING NATIONAL VETERANS WHEELCHAIR GAMES

The **26th National Veterans Wheelchair Games** will bring nearly 600 wheelchair-confined athletes to Anchorage for the **July 3-8 competition** (along with about 2500 accompanying friends and family members).

The **3,000+ participants and family members** from the **Wheelchair Games** will strongly prefer to patronize stores, restaurants, etc. that are wheelchair accessible. Thus, things like crowded aisles and/or the lack of a ramp to an entrance way will discourage business during that period.

With the competition a month away, **now is the time to start preparing for these 3,000+ visitors to Downtown.** Simple things - such as taking time to clear up cluttered or crowded aisles - can go a long way. More difficult issues - such as providing an ADA compliant ramp at your entrance - can be overcome with relatively simple efforts. For example, building a wooden ramp can help eliminate a step to the front door and may go a long way toward encouraging business while the athletes are visiting Downtown.

Visit www.anchoragewheelchairgames.net for the **complete schedule** of games and events.

4TH OF JULY COMES DOWNTOWN

The **July 4th Celebration** will take place in **Downtown** on **July 4, 2006, from 8:00am – 6:00pm.** The celebration will kick-off with a \$5 per person pancake breakfast benefiting homeless programs of **the Salvation Army.**

Then the **annual veteran's parade** will start at **11:00am** and follows a route **along 6th Avenue between E and K streets.** At **2:30pm** the hand cycle racers from **the National Veteran's Wheelchair Games** (see above) will tear through Downtown, followed by the **finish of the Sadler's Ultra Challenge** at **3:30pm.**

Here is a link to the **July 4th Celebration Schedule of Events** and here is a link to the **Parade Map.**

4TH OF JULY PARKING INFORMATION

Fifth Avenue between F and K Streets will be open for **free diagonal parking** on both sides of the streets. **The Fifth Avenue Mall parking garage** will be available as will the lots at **3rd and C.** **Street parking** and the **Municipal garage at 6th and H** are open and free although **access to the downtown core will close by 10:15 for the parade.**

Avoid it all by riding bikes to the celebration and park in the **bike corral at 10th and I Street.**

For more information, contact (907) 279-7500

COME CELEBRATE POLYNESIAN FLAG DAY

ADP Members the **Anchorage Polynesian Association** is hosting their annual **Polynesian Flag Day** event **July 1st** on the **Park Strip** from **10:00am – 5:00pm**. The event features a parade, games, food and entertainment.

PARKING REMINDER FROM GSA

At the request of the **General Services Administration (GSA)** – manager of the federal properties in Downtown – we would like to **remind businesses and patrons of the SoNo District** (including Nordstrom) that the **outside parking lot on the south side of 7th Avenue between D and C Street is for federal employees and visitors to the federal building only. This includes weekends and after hours.**

Persons who park at this federal lot are **subject to \$50 tickets** and may be sent to federal district court too. **Save yourself the money and hassle by parking in the JC Penney garage.**



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The Vision of Anchorage Downtown Partnership, Ltd. is to be a not-for-profit organization that is a recognized symbol that promotes and advocates, in collaboration with the Municipality and the community at large, for a vital, "year around," clean, safe Downtown Anchorage for those who live, work and visit Downtown.