

**June 24, 2021**

**For immediate release:**

**Fireworks, Concert, and Children's Entertainment Set for Wednesday, July 7**

Mayor Jimmy Davis announced that the City of Bayonne's Independence Day Celebration will be held on Wednesday, July 7, 2021, at the lower level of DiDomenico-16th Street Park, beginning at 6:30 pm, weather permitting. (There will be a rain date of Wednesday, July 14.)

On July 7, there will be plenty of attractions for both children and adults.

Free children's inflatable rides will be available from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The rides will be stationed in the old amphitheater, which is located at the southeastern corner of the park's lower level.

Bobby Harden and the Soul Purpose Band will perform at 7:00 p.m. The group plays pop and soul music. They will play at the municipal amphitheater, which is located at the southwestern corner of the lower level of the park, near Newark Bay. This will be the first concert of the 2021 Summer Sounds By the Bay concert series.

The fireworks are scheduled to go off at approximately 9:15 p.m. The fireworks show will run for about 30 minutes.

Chairs will *not* be provided for the fireworks and this first concert, due to the expected size of the crowd. Spectators are asked to bring their own chairs on July

7. Chairs will be provided at future concerts this summer.

Food vendors will be located in the parking lot.

A buffer zone will be created in the park and the bay for residents' safety.

Only authorized people will be allowed inside the buffer zone. No pleasure craft in Newark Bay will be permitted within a perimeter of at least 500 feet from the launch site, as per the U.S. Coast Guard. The Fire Department will have a boat in the bay during the show.

The Bayonne Recreation Division is providing free shuttle bus service for the event and will pick up passengers at East 24th Street and Church Lane. This location is near two parking lots: Parking Lot 6 (behind Archie's Cab) and Parking Lot 7 (behind Valley Bank).

Shuttle bus service will begin at 6:00 p.m., and will drop off passengers at the lower level parking lot alongside the tennis courts until 8:30 p.m. Following the fireworks, at approximately 10:00 p.m., the buses will pick up passengers at the same area for the return trip to East 24th Street and Church Lane.

Shuttles will continue to run until all passengers have been returned to East 24th Street and Church Lane, by approximately 11:00 p.m.

To provide space for the shuttle, parking will not be allowed in a designated bus area between 6:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. Signs will be posted in the designated no parking area.

The boat ramp on the lower level of the park will be closed to boats for the entire day and the boat ramp parking lot will be available for public parking.

The main parking area on the lower level of the park will be closed to the general public after 7:00 a.m. No parking will be allowed by the firing range on the upper level of the park.

On West 16th Street, between Avenue A and the park, no parking will be allowed on either side of the street after 6:00 p.m. Signs will be posted. The signs will be removed around 10:00 p.m. as the event ends. Police will create a single lane for traffic on that portion of West 16th Street for crowd control purposes.

The DiDomenico Municipal Pool on the upper level of the park will follow regular operating hours on July 7, opening at 10:30 a.m. and closing at 5:00 p.m., weather permitting.

The basketball courts on the lower level of the park will close at 2:00 p.m. The park's regular bathrooms will be closed for the event. Portable toilets will be available. Both regular and handicap facilities will be provided.

If it rains, the fireworks, concert, and entertainment would be rescheduled for Wednesday, July 14. The same times and procedures announced for July 7 would apply to July 14, if the rain date needed to be used.

In the event of inclement weather, please call 201-471-7590 after 4:00 p.m., or visit [www.bayonnerec.com](http://www.bayonnerec.com), or view the city's Facebook page to check on the status of the fireworks and concert.

For further information, please contact Pete Amadeo at 201-858-6129 or email [BAYONNEREC@AOL.COM](mailto:BAYONNEREC@AOL.COM).