



CITY OF UVALDE *Uvalde, Texas*

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STATEMENT CONCERNING GRADUATION EVENTS

Questions have arisen about certain events announced for the high school senior class in recognition of "graduation week." Other than the graduation ceremony itself, the events are not being organized or sponsored by UCISD, but are being organized by a group of parents. Needless to say, there are obvious concerns about whether such events should be permitted during the current pandemic.

The events include a parade of the graduating class and the traditional "Powder-Puff" football game, both of which will take place on city property (streets and parks.)

There is no specific guidance from the state on the conduct of parades. Based on general guidance for activities taking place outdoors, the city believes that the parade can be managed, provided participants and spectators follow the general rules for social distancing and separating groups.

With regard to the Powder Puff game, the governor announced Monday, as part of the next phase of "opening" Texas, that youth sports are going to be allowed, and published applicable rules and protocols. The new rules opening youth sports are effective May 31. Nonetheless, the city will allow this event to be held at the sports complex in advance of that date.

By allowing the events to take place, the city is in no way sponsoring, endorsing, or assuming any liability for them. The events are led and managed by the parents who have requested the use of city property.

All parents are on notice that the risk is theirs should they allow their children to participate in these events. As with any youth activities in this time of COVID-19 pandemic, it is up to the students and parents to exercise prudence and common sense when deciding whether or not to participate in group activities.

Don McLaughlin, Mayor
Vince DiPiazza, City Manager