

Orange Crush 2K24 Event – City of Tybee Preparations Update Request for the Feb 8, 2024 City Council Meeting

Feb 8, 2024 will be 10 weeks prior to the Orange Crush weekend advertised by promoters.

1) Requesting update to public on promoters permit request and cities consideration and response of the request?

2) What amount of liability insurance policy does the promoter seeking to host Orange Crush on Tybee

need to have to protect against damage to city, state, business property, personal injury?

3) Are we in continuous discussion with the promoters.

- Myself and Assistant Chief Whitley met with Britian Wigfall approximately 3 times. The latest being 01/22/2024. Two additional times Mr. Wigfall was with Christian Shelley and Julia Pearce.

What is their liability for issues during the event?

Will they be partners in resolving conflicts during the event?

4) What legal limitations and restrictions exist that Tybee is working under per the US Dept of Justice?

5) What is the cities estimate of crowd and traffic size for Thursday 04/18/24, Friday 04/19/24, Saturday 04/20/24 & Sunday 04/21/24?

- Last year's crowd and traffic numbers are as follows:

Vehicles Count-

Friday 4/21/2023 ON-10501 OFF-9428

Saturday 4/22/2023 ON-11565 OFF-10093

Sunday 04/23/2023 ON-9577 OFF-11723

Visitor Count-

Friday 04/21/2023 27,700

Saturday 04/22/2023 48,700

Sunday 04/23/2023 34,700

Total: 111,100

6) What is our Police/EMS/Fire/Public Works department's specific staffing needs and what written plans exist to support visitor and community safety?

- Please see attached BRIEF

7) What requests of additional staffing support and coordination have been requested from the County and State Police and other agencies?

- OC2024 promoter Britian Wigfall announced OC2024 on 11/28/2023. On 11/29/2023, I emailed Capt. Chris Rodewalt, GSP, Capt. Chris Hodge, DNR to let them know of the dates and our intent to ask for assistance again. In this email, I stated I would reach out to each of them after the holidays to schedule a meeting.
- On 01/05/2024, I sent an email to Capt. Chris Rodewalt, GSP, and Capt. Chris Hodge, DNR requesting a meeting at the end of the month. Both replied and a meeting was scheduled for 01/23 at 1000 hrs. (please see attached BRIEF)
- CCSO Deputy Chief Gary Taylor was also invited to this meeting via telephone and attended via conference call.
- Additionally, there will be a road safety checkpoint.

8) Have we completed a written full risk assessment for Orange Crush? Can that be shared with council?

- The police department did an after-action review with command staff and officers after the first Orange Crush. We did not do a full risk assessment. Peach Fest was the following weekend and was handled extremely differently. “Turnt” Island was the event from June 30th-July 3rd. This event had better preparations and is documented in an operations plan. This can be viewed by the city council. Additionally, command staff visited Jax Beach to observe the way they operated and handled Orange Crush Festival 2023.

9) Can we manage density for crowd size in areas on the beach?

10) Are we closing off Tybrisa and portion of South parking lot for additional pedestrian zones to traffic as per Pirate Fest or is parking a greater need?

- Currently, we do not plan on closing Tybrisa or the south end parking lots. Once the parking lots are full, we work closely with parking services to close the parking lots to additional traffic.

11) Do we need any additional signs in support of the event? Bathrooms, Security, Health Aid?

- The city supplies port o johns in the south end parking lots.

12) What is the emergency plan for orderly evacuation of high density areas in case of gun fight, riot, other high injury potentials? Can that be shared with city council?

- Officers will do their best to clear the area as orderly as possible while securing a potential crime scene and tending to the wounded. This is difficult in an open-air area where there is no set entry or exit.

13) Should metal detectors be used in high density areas (including outside venues) for crowd protection?

14) What are the traffic plans for the island?

- Traffic will be monitored throughout the shifts. The Shift Supervisor will stay in contact with the Parking Services Supervisor in the event any parking lots need to be CLOSED or in the event of gridlock. Extra personnel may be used to assist with the flow of traffic at the below intersections. Traffic protocols for holiday weekends will be in effect with barriers strategically placed from 15th Street to 17th Street from 04/19-04/21. Specifically, on 4/20/2024, barricades will be placed at the cross streets on Butler Avenue, to aid in keeping traffic out of the neighborhoods and flowing outbound traffic on Butler Avenue to Highway 80.

If the need arises, the Shift Supervisor can contact GDOT at 404-635-8028 to coordinate messages on the Highway 80 message board located near Bryan Woods Road. The e-mail address at tmcsupervisors@dot.ga.gov can also be utilized to post the following messages:

First Message:

HEAVY CONGESTION

NEAR TYBEE ISLAND

EXPECT DELAYS

Second Message:

TYBEE ISLAND

PARKING LOTS FULL

EXPECT DELAYS

An Emergency Lane (EM) will be utilized for Public Safety purposes from 4/19/2024 through 4/21/2024. The EM will be maintained from the Lazaretto Creek Bridge eastbound to Tybrisa Street. The EM will be staffed with members of the Georgia State Patrol and the Georgia Motor Carrier Division.

15) What is the parking plan for the event?

16) What additional bathrooms are planned for the event?

17) Can we provide additional waste containers on/near the beach and the community?

18) What civil and human rights staff training has occurred in the last year or should occur prior?

- All officers are required to take the following training:
Cultural Awareness
De-escalation Options for Gaining Compliance

Police Legitimacy and Procedural Justice for Community Relations
Fostering Positive Community Relations

(please see handout for a description of each course)

19) Should the city reaffirm a resolution to promote racial equality and social justice?

20) What is the plan to be able to aid EMS on and off the island for health issues?

- If needed, we will utilize a police escort.

21) Should we seek additional involvement and insight from south end business owners, local residents, Tybee MLK representative, others?

- Tybee Island Command staff met with the STVR companies and hotel/motel management on 01/23/2024 at 0930. This meeting was requested on 01/10/2024 by Chief Hayes.

22) What are the projected costs for staffing plans of Orange Crush.

- Overtime will be utilized. Last year during Turnt Island, 06/30-07/03, we spent roughly \$61,132.55. (please see attached)

23) What housing and food support for city staffing is being provided by the community at cost or no cost?

- Command Staff and Chief Kendrick, TIFD, met with STVR companies and owners of hotel/motels on 01/23/2024. This was asked of each company. We will follow up with each company in the near future.
- Food, as of now, is still in discussion.

24) What funding of the additional city staffing needs are being provided by the promoters or event Sponsors for Orange Crush?

- None

25) Can you debrief last years event?

a. How many visitors/cars?

- Last years crowd and traffic numbers are as follow:

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b. Summarize Police/EMS/Fire/Public Works responses to last years events including weapons confiscated and other high risks concerns

- 15 firearms were taken off the street during Orange Crush and Peach Fest. 2 of these firearms were reported stolen and the cases were referred to the ATF.
- During Orange Crush officers utilized pepper ball due to the crowd throwing glass bottles at them. Several officers were struck with glass bottles including the head. Once pepper ball was deployed shots were fired from the crowd.
- One police vehicle was damaged from attendees stomping on the hood and roof.
- Aggravated Assault with a vehicle
- Shots fired calls