



FORT BRAGG POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Chief of Police

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PRESS RELEASE

Releasing Officer: Sergeant Thomas N. O'Neal
Date/Time of Event: June 5, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.
Location of Event: City of Fort Bragg
Event: Fort Bragg High School Graduation Procession

CIRCUMSTANCES:

On June 5, 2020, at 4:30 p.m., Dana Street will be closed from south of Taubold Court to Chestnut Street to all vehicle and pedestrian traffic. Residents and school staff will still be allowed to access the area. School staff is encouraged to utilize Chestnut Street for access to the Fort Bragg High School grounds.

Starting at 5:00 p.m., the Fort Bragg Police Department and other first responder agencies will be providing security and traffic control for the Fort Bragg High School Graduation Procession from the South Coastal Trail, Cypress St. entrance, to Fort Bragg High School, Dana St.

The Graduation Procession will leave the South Coastal Trail entrance at West Cypress Street, and travel northbound onto Main Street. Emergency vehicles will be providing traffic control at all major intersections along the route to allow the procession to move through uninterrupted. Motorists may expect delays of up to ten minutes and are encouraged to utilize Franklin Street if they have time sensitive travel plans.

The procession will turn right from Main Street onto eastbound East Oak Street and then slow to 5-10 miles per hour. This will allow the graduates' family and friends the opportunity to safely occupy the sidewalks and yards of residences in order to show their solidarity and support for the Graduating Class of 2020. Westbound traffic on E. Oak Street will remain open during this time; however, motorists should lower their speed and take into account the increased number of pedestrians along the parade route of Oak St.

The controlled intersections on Oak Street at Franklin Street, Harold Street, Sanderson Way and Dana Street will be closed to North/South traffic during the procession. Motorists may expect delays up to 10-15 minutes; Main Street will be open to North/South traffic once the procession has turned onto East Oak Street, all other intersections will open once the procession clears through each intersection.

The Graduation Procession will turn from of East Oak Street and onto Dana Street to begin lining up for their graduation ceremony. The ceremony is expected to be broadcasted live both via television/social media and via radio. More details to follow on where and how to watch/hear the ceremony.

During the procession all vehicle safety codes and traffic laws will still apply. Occupants of vehicles in the procession must wear their seatbelts and are expected to participate in the procession in a safe and courteous manner.

The Fort Bragg Unified School District and the Fort Bragg Police Department have made the joint decision **to not allow any visitors on the school properties of Dana Grey Elementary or Fort Bragg High School during the ceremony**. The previously described areas of Dana Street and Chestnut Street east of Dana Street, as well as the John Deidrick Center will also be closed to the public. This was not an easy decision, but was necessary in order to allow this ceremony to happen considering the current restrictions related to the Shelter in Place Order (SIP). We encourage our community in supporting the 2020 Fort Bragg High School Graduates along the procession route by decorating their yards, holding banners, and simply being present during this unique graduation ceremony.

Concerns or questions regarding this year's procession route, traffic control, or road closures may be forwarded to Sergeant O'Neal at (707) 961-2800 ext. 120 or to toneal@fortbragg.com.

END