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## BRADENTON POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS RELEASE

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JOSH CRAMER - CHIEF OF POLICE

Media Contact:  
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### **Downtown Bradenton Traffic Advisories for February 20-22**

Several events scheduled the weekend of February 20-22, including the Bradenton Area River Regatta, are expected to draw extra traffic to downtown Bradenton and the Bradenton Riverwalk.

#### **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20**

There are no road closures on Friday. However, the Rossi Park parking lot will be closed to the public at 4 a.m. for Bradenton River Regatta preparations and will remain closed through Saturday. Only those with VIP parking permits may use the lot. Additionally, there will be no parking in the circle between the River Dance condominiums and Riversong apartments.

The Gulf Islands ferry service will not be available on Friday and Saturday.

#### **Bradenton Area River Regatta Opening Night**

- Live music begins at Rossi Park at 5 p.m.
- A drone and fireworks show begins at approximately 7:15 p.m. and is expected to last approximately 16 minutes. The show will be visible on either side of the Manatee River. The recommended viewing area in Bradenton is along the Riverwalk, between Rossi Park and the observation tower.
- No road closures are required.
- Free parking is available in the garages and lots operated by the City of Bradenton.

#### **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21**

Road closures for the LECOM 5K Run/Walk and Bradenton Area River Regatta begin at approximately 4 a.m. Roads will reopen after the races conclude, barricades are removed, and clean-up is completed.



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- The Green Bridge will be closed to vehicles, electric bikes, and scooters. Those with bikes/scooters must use the pedestrian walkway on the bridge. Free trolley service will be available for travel between Palmetto and Bradenton from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The De Soto Bridge will remain open.
- 9th St. W. will be closed between Manatee Ave. and the Green Bridge.
- 12th St. W. (Old Main St.) will be closed between Manatee Ave. and 1st Ave. W./Barcarrota Blvd.
- 10th St W will be closed from the City Centre Parking Garage to the Riverwalk. The garage will be accessible.
- 3rd Ave. W. will be open only for eastbound traffic between 9th St. W. and 1st St./US-41.
- Free parking is available in parking garages and parking lots operated by the City of Bradenton, except for the parking lot located between the City Centre garage and City Hall. VIP passes are required for the Rossi Park lot.

### **LECOM 5K Run/Walk**

The race begins at 8:00 a.m. All runners must be off the Green Bridge by 9:30 a.m.

- The race begins and ends at the intersection of 15th St. W. and 4th Ave. W. Runners will travel north to 1st Ave. W., east to 10th St. W., south to 3rd Ave. W., east to 9th St. W., and north across the Green Bridge. The turnaround point is on the Palmetto side of the bridge.
- Race participants are encouraged to park in the Manatee County Public Parking Garage at the corner of Manatee Ave. W. & 10th St. W.

### **Bradenton Public Market**

- The market will operate on a normal schedule, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. However, vendors and the public should be aware of the road closures, and plan routes in advance.

### **11th Annual Bradenton Area River Regatta**

The 11th annual event begins at 10 a.m., featuring Formula 1, Formula Lights, and Tri-Hulls racing, plus fly-board exhibitions, live music, vendors, family fun zones, and more. Events are



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planned in Bradenton and Palmetto. Racing is expected to conclude around 5 p.m. A schedule and maps of vendor locations are available at [bradentonarearegatta.com](http://bradentonarearegatta.com).

- The Bradenton Police Department is partnering with other local law enforcement agencies, under the leadership of the Manatee County Emergency Operations Center, to ensure the safety of participants and spectators on land and on the Manatee River.
- The U.S. Coast Guard mandates Manatee River restrictions for the Regatta. Boaters must adhere to the no-cross perimeter defined by red buoys in effect during Saturday's boat races and water activities, and Friday's drone/fireworks show. Law enforcement will patrol the river to ensure compliance.
- First-aid stations are on either side of the Manatee River.
- Spectators may bring coolers, chairs, and blankets. Coolers are subject to search.
- The Gulf Islands ferry service will not be operating.

### **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22**

The Pittsburgh Pirates' spring training home opener against the Tampa Bay Rays is at 1:05 p.m. at LECOM Park. Extra traffic should be anticipated.