

RESOLUTION R-2026-16

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BASTROP, TEXAS, GRANTING A VARIANCE TO THE CITY OF BASTROP PARADE SAFETY AND USE ORDINANCES TO ALLOW THE THROWING OF ITEMS FROM FLOATS AND VEHICLES DURING THE BASTROP MARDI GRAS PARADE, ORGANIZED BY DISCOVER BASTROP, UNDER SPECIFIED CONDITIONS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Discover Bastrop, the City's destination marketing and special events department, is the organizer of the Bastrop Mardi Gras Parade; and

WHEREAS, Discover Bastrop has requested a variance to the City of Bastrop's parade safety and use ordinances to allow participants to throw lightweight items from floats and vehicles during the Bastrop Mardi Gras Parade; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that the proposed throwing of items, when limited to lightweight and soft materials and conducted under defined safety conditions, will not adversely impact public health, safety, or welfare; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to grant such variance in order to preserve the cultural traditions of Mardi Gras celebrations while ensuring appropriate safety measures are in place;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BASTROP, TEXAS:

Section 1: FINDINGS.

The City Council hereby finds and determines that the foregoing recitals are true and correct and are incorporated herein as findings of fact.

Section 2: GRANT OF VARIANCE.

A variance to the City of Bastrop parade safety and use ordinances is hereby granted to Discover Bastrop for the Bastrop Mardi Gras Parade (the "Event"), subject to the following conditions:

1. **Permitted Throws.** Participants may throw only lightweight, soft items commonly associated with Mardi Gras celebrations, including but not limited to:
 - Plastic beads and bead necklaces;
 - Soft plush items (small stuffed toys);
 - Foam items;
 - Soft, lightweight trinkets or favors;
 - Individually wrapped, soft candy.
2. **Safety Requirements.**
 - Any float or vehicle from which items are thrown must be accompanied by a **walker on each side** of the float or vehicle.

- All thrown items must be **lightweight and safe** for tossing from a moving float or vehicle.
- **Hard, heavy, sharp, breakable, or otherwise hazardous items are strictly prohibited.**

3. Compliance with Parade Rules.

- All participants must comply with the parade permit, route requirements, and all other applicable City rules and ordinances.
- Discover Bastrop shall ensure all parade participants receive written notice of this variance and the conditions outlined herein.

Section 3: That this Resolution shall take effect immediately from and after its passage, and it is duly resolved.

DULY RESOLVED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Bastrop this 27th day of January 2026.

APPROVED:

Ishmael Harris, Mayor

ATTEST:

Michael Muscarello, City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Attorney

Denton Navarro Rocha Bernal & Zech, P.C.

