



## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## **City of Walker Organizes Tribute to Veterans This Memorial Day**

WALKER, Mich. -- As we continue feeling the impacts of COVID-19, most recently in late April as cases spiked in our area, we have been encouraged by how our community has really stepped up to responsibly help mitigate this virus.

Our driving force for making decisions around community events has been guidance from the Kent County Health Department. The sharp increase in cases, and our concern for the well-being of the community, was why we had to make the difficult decision a few weeks ago to postpone this year's Memorial Day Parade.

However, the recent trend of declining cases in our area is promising. With continued guidance from the KCHD, we feel we can now safely hold a tribute to our veterans this Memorial Day in the form of a parade. Even though we use the term "parade," it will look and feel much different this year.

The parade route has been moved from Lake Michigan Drive to Remembrance Road, making it nearly twice as long to offer people more options to spread out.

Parade-goers can also expect some safety protocols for the event. For instance, there will be no one walking outside of vehicles in the parade this year. We will also not have any candy or other items being tossed out to the crowd. We believe that by taking some of these measures we can safely recognize our veterans on a solemn day of memorial.

You're invited to join us for our Memorial Day Parade Monday, May 31, at noon. The route will begin at City Hall and end at Walker Village. We ask our community to please continue respecting State guidelines by social distancing as best as possible, and avoid grouping together with people who are not part of the same household. We are also encouraging the use of masks.