

September 24, 2020

City of Independence
Independence City Hall
111 E Maple Ave
Independence, MO 64050

Madam Mayor, Mister City Manager and Council Members,

On behalf of the Englewood Business Association, thank you for supporting the Arts, small business, and our Community Improvement District. Please accept our apologies for being late on providing the Englewood Station Arts District's 2020/2021 event schedule per the City's requirement.

Considering the Covid-19 Pandemic, please know that the monthly 3rd Friday Art Walk Weekends have not been promoted since April 2020 when the EBA's calendar year began and have in fact, been cancelled. The individual businesses in our district who have chosen to stay open late on the 3rd Fridays are doing so while following the CDC recommendations including required face masks inside and 6 feet social distancing. All businesses have these recommendations clearly posted on their doors.

The CDC recommends outdoor festivals without a capacity setting are limited to no more than 100 people, (providing social distancing of 6 feet can be maintained).

Small business is about promoting a healthy community. Our monthly art walks have been missed particularly as we just missed our 11th anniversary of having them. The Englewood Business Association meets on the 2nd Monday monthly where we discuss the latest city and county recommendations on public safety in this current pandemic and make our decision on whether to go forward with our 3rd Friday for that month. With that in mind, we have had NO art walk promotions and no outside art/vendor attractions since February 2020. We are grateful to Cristina Heinen of the health department for her guidelines during this time.

October's scheduled art walk will more than likely be the same: NO promotion of art walk gatherings. Traditionally, Englewood would be dressed up for Halloween. We are encouraging businesses to continue following safety guidelines, (face masks and social distancing) and if they do decide to hand out candy; consider pre-packaged treat bags.

November and December will follow the same guidelines. If we can promote based on city and county recommendations, we will but will always check with the city's guidelines and follow them. The holiday lights will go up in November and the sleigh rides will be offered. Ralph Goldsmith and Pioneer Trails Adventures will be responsible for all safety protocol including the wearing of masks and social distancing when it comes to the sleigh rides.

Thank you for your consideration.

The Englewood Business Association