

KAILUA INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE 2026

SATURDAY, JULY 4 2026. PARADE



PARADE PARTICIPANT APPLICATION

Participants must be in their staging area by 9:00 a.m.

Parade begins at 10:00 a.m. and finishes tentatively at 12:00 pm

Application Deadline: June 1, 2026

(applications may be submitted using this form or our online application.)

Kailua Chamber of Commerce/Parade Committee reserves the right to refuse the participation of any applicant.

PARADE THEME

We are thrilled to announce the theme for our 77th Annual Kailua Independence Day Parade: "Stronger Together."



Just as our community comes together in times of joy and challenge, this year's theme celebrates unity, resilience, and the power of connection. "Stronger Together" reflects the spirit of aloha that binds us—neighbors helping neighbors, families supporting one another, and a community that stands united through it all. It's a reminder that when we come together, we are capable of incredible strength, compassion, and impact.

As we gather to commemorate our nation's independence, we also honor the people, organizations, and traditions that make Kailua such a special place. This theme invites us to celebrate collaboration, inclusivity, and the shared pride we have in our hometown.

We encourage all participants to decorate their floats to reflect the theme, but you are welcome to showcase your patriotic pride or represent your business in a way that best embodies your values and connection to our community.

This year's awards include:

Best Overall Float, Best Marching Unit, Best Keiki-Centric Float and Best Representation of the Theme
We can't wait to see your creativity and aloha spirit shine through at this year's parade!

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GENERAL RULES

- **Entry Approval:** Entries that are not appropriate for children, promote controversial or negative messages, or are deemed objectionable will not be permitted.
- **Refund Policy:** Participation cancellations must be received by June 1, 2026, for a full refund of the entry fee.
- **Returned Checks:** A \$35 service fee will be charged for any returned checks, after which payments must be made in cash.
- **Entry Limits:**
 - Maximum of 75 participants per entry.
 - Maximum of 8 vehicles per entry, with a 100-foot marching space limit.
 - No duplicate entries. If additional space is needed, please inquire in advance.
- **Float & Vehicle Restrictions:**
 - Maximum height: 12 feet
 - Maximum width: 11 feet
 - No small, fast, or spinning vehicles (e.g., hoverboards) are allowed.
- **Spectator Safety:** Parade spectators must remain off the parade route at all times.
- **Flag Requirement:** Every parade entry must display at least one American flag.
- **Creative Entertainment:** Participants are encouraged to provide family-friendly entertainment that engages the audience.
- **Children's Safety:**
 - Children must remain inside vehicles or floats at all times—no jumping on or off moving vehicles.
 - Units with children ages 5-13 must have one adult per 10 children.
 - Units with children under 5 must have one adult per 2 children.
- **Dress Code & Conduct:** Participants must dress appropriately and conduct themselves respectfully.
- **Liability Waiver:** All participants assume the risk of injury or property damage and release the Kailua Chamber of Commerce from liability.

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GENERAL RULES CONTINUED

- **Handouts & Littering:**
 - Leaflets and flyers are discouraged to prevent litter. Participants will be held responsible for cleaning up any trash.
 - Throwing items into the crowd is prohibited. Instead, designated walkers should hand out items directly.
- **Parade Flow & Timing:**
 - All participants must follow instructions from street marshals to maintain spacing and avoid delays.
- **Performances along the route are discouraged as they create gaps; any reviewing stand performances must be limited to 30 seconds.**
- **Groups failing to comply with marshals' directions may be removed by HPD.**
- **No Line-Up Substitutions: Only registered groups are permitted to participate.**
- **Animal Participants:**
 - Bring water and protect from heat (e.g., dog booties for hot asphalt).
 - Participants must clean up after their animals.

END OF PARADE PROCEDURES

- The parade ends at Kailua Intermediate School.
- Float disassembly is NOT allowed at Kailua Intermediate.
- Participants are responsible for all trash removal of their group.
- No gathering or parking on Kainalu Drive after the parade to prevent congestion.
- Any rude behavior toward parade staff may result in future disqualification.
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PARKING & TRANSPORTATION

- Limited parking is available at Kailua Intermediate School from 7:00 AM to 1:30 PM.
 - Vehicles left after 1:30 PM will be towed at the owner's expense.

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GENERAL RULES CONTINUED

PARKING & TRANSPORTATION Cont.

Reserved parking in the front loop is for:

- Horse trailers
- Buses & equipment trucks
- Royal Hawaiian Band members
- Handicap parking (limited availability)
- Side street parking is permitted except in designated staging areas.

• Shuttle Service:

- Available 7:00 AM – 9:00 AM from Kailua Intermediate to staging areas.
- Route and amount of trolleys to be announced as we get closer to the event
- All participants must be at their staging areas by 9:00 AM.
- No animals are allowed on shuttles.

REMINDERS & PARADE DAY TIPS

- Expect delays once you arrive at your designated staging area.
- Bring essentials: Hats, sunscreen, comfortable clothing, and water.
- Restrooms are located at:
 - Kailua Intermediate School
 - Kainalu Elementary School
 - Kailua District Park
- Parade Marshals & Safety:
 - Street Captains will help ensure correct line-up positioning.
 - Parade Marshals along the route will have radios for emergencies.
 - Respect all volunteers—they are dedicating their time to make this event a success!

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GENERAL RULES CONTINUED

JUDGING & PRIZES

- Judges: To Be determined, but are often Kailua Community members.
- Winners will be announced post-parade and will be invited to our General Membership Luncheon on September 17, 2026, at Mid Pacific Country Club to receive their awards.

MANDATORY

Participants must attend a **MANDATORY PACKET PICK UP** on the week **JUNE 22**. More information about times and scheduling will be released as we get closer to that week. There will be multiple time slots available for this pick up. This pick up will have your parade packets, including your parade position and staging area information and will be distributed at that time. At least one representative must attend per entrant application. Any entrant that does not pick up their participant packet will be removed from the parade lineup and the entry fee will not be refunded.

Thank you for your participation! We look forward to celebrating Independence Day with our amazing Kailua community!



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For quick and easy registration, scan the provided QR code to complete your entry online. This is the fastest way to secure your spot in the parade!
If you prefer to mail your registration, please send your completed application below along with a check or cash to:

Kailua Chamber of Commerce ATTN: PARADE
P.O. Box 1496, Kailua, Hawaii 96734

Name of Business or participating organization

Contact Person:

Email

Mailing Address

Phone Number

Number of people in your entry (required): _____ Number of vehicles in your entry (required): _____

Please check whichever box your organization falls in. Chamber Members will have a 10% discount that they may automatically apply to the below prices, or they will receive 10% promo code for online orders. If you are not sure, please email parade@kailuachamber.com

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Profit - Community -----\$155 | <input type="checkbox"/> Campaign -----\$675 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Non - Profit Keiki/ Keiki Centric - \$155 | <input type="checkbox"/> Marching Band/ Horse Unit -----\$0 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Business -----\$395 | <input type="checkbox"/> Military/Veteran Group -----\$0 |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please Email) -----\$TBD |

Please Sign and Date Below:

Signature _____

Date: _____