

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: SEPTEMBER 15, 2008

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER *J*

SUBJECT: PROPOSED ROUTE CHANGE OF THE 2008 SCOTTISH CHRISTMAS WALK PARADE

ISSUE: City Council consideration of the proposed route change of the 2008 Scottish Christmas Walk Parade.

RECOMMENDATION: That City Council approve the requested change to the 2008 parade route for the Annual Scottish Christmas Walk Parade scheduled for December 6, 2008

DISCUSSION: The 2008 Annual Scottish Christmas Walk, scheduled for Saturday, December 6, will mark the 38th year that the Campagna Center has hosted this annual event, which begins at 11:00 a.m. Many elected officials and other dignitaries participate in the parade, which has become one of the feature events of the Old Town area. The Campagna Center and City staff are requesting a change to the route of the Annual Scottish Christmas Walk Parade that will reduce the route by five blocks.

The 2007 parade route (Attachment 1) was as follows:

The 2007 route started at the intersection of Wilkes Street and South St. Asaph Street. The parade heads north on South St. Asaph Street to Queen Street. The parade turns right on Queen Street to North Fairfax Street, where it turns right and heads south on North Fairfax Street. The parade turns right on Duke Street to South Royal Street and turns right and heads north to the termination point at the intersections of North Royal and Cameron Streets (Market Square).

The following is a description of the proposed 2008 route (Attachment 2):

The 2008 proposed route would start at the intersection of Wilkes Street and South St. Asaph Street. The parade would head north on South St. Asaph Street to Queen Street. The parade would turn right on Queen Street to North Fairfax Street, where it would turn right and head south on North Fairfax Street. The parade would then turn right on King Street, and pass the reviewing stand at King and Royal Streets (Market Square) to the termination point at the intersection of King and Pitt Streets.

The requested proposed change in route will keep the parade route in the areas where the larger crowds are, as well as simplify the logistics for both the “clan of bands” at the conclusion of the parade and parade dispersal. The route change also shortens the time that the east-west streets (Duke and Prince) need to be closed to traffic. The City's Special Events Committee supports this request for a parade route change from the Campagna Center. The Old Town Civic Association and the Old Town Business Association were also consulted and support this route change. It is expected that approximately 30,000 people will visit the City of Alexandria for the Scottish Christmas Walk.

FISCAL IMPACT: Anticipated cost savings to the City are unknown at this time, but there will be some savings based on the new route.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1. 2007 Scottish Christmas Walk Parade Route

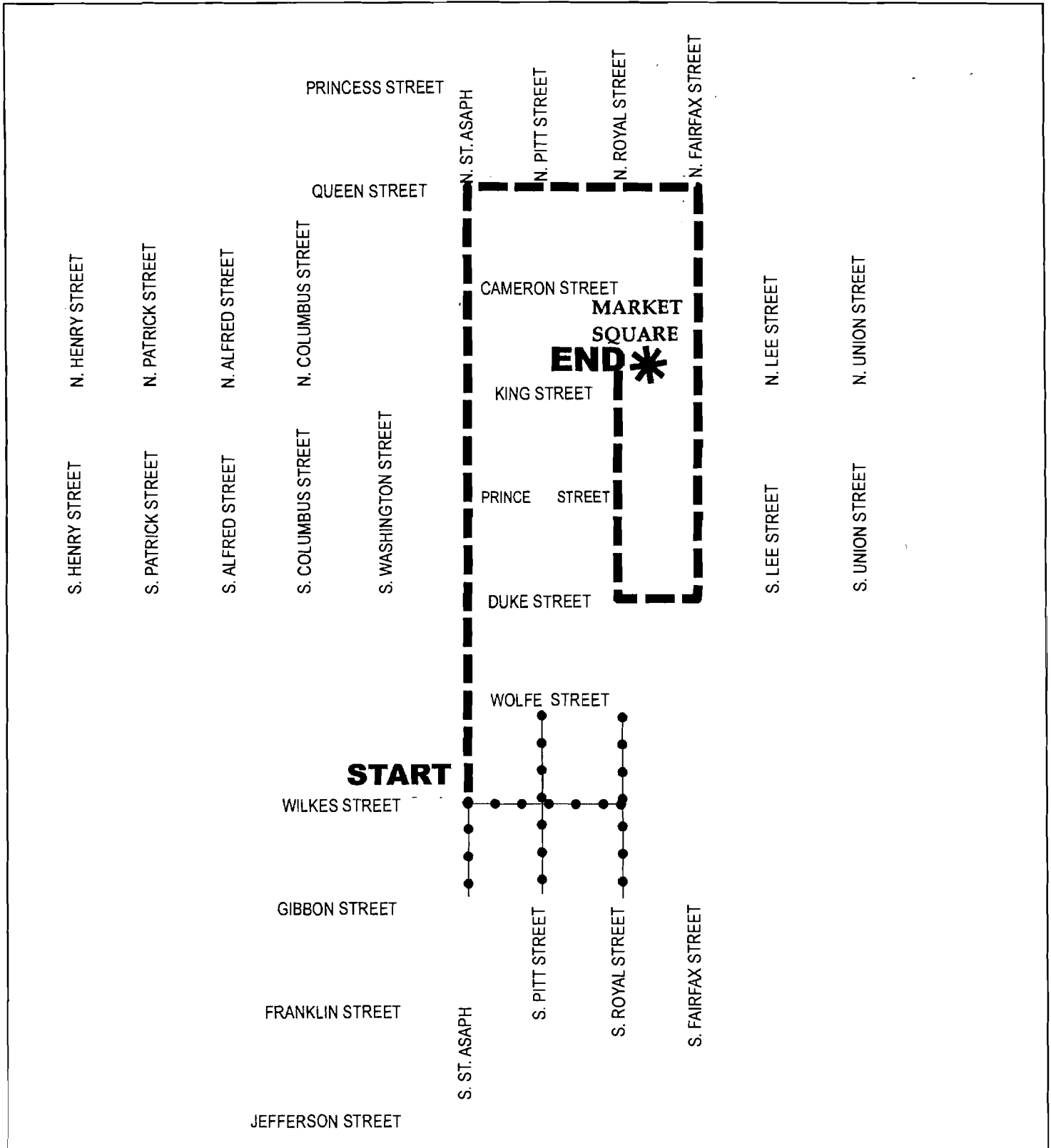
Attachment 2. Proposed 2008 Scottish Christmas Walk Parade Route

STAFF:




Kirk Kincannon, Director, Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities

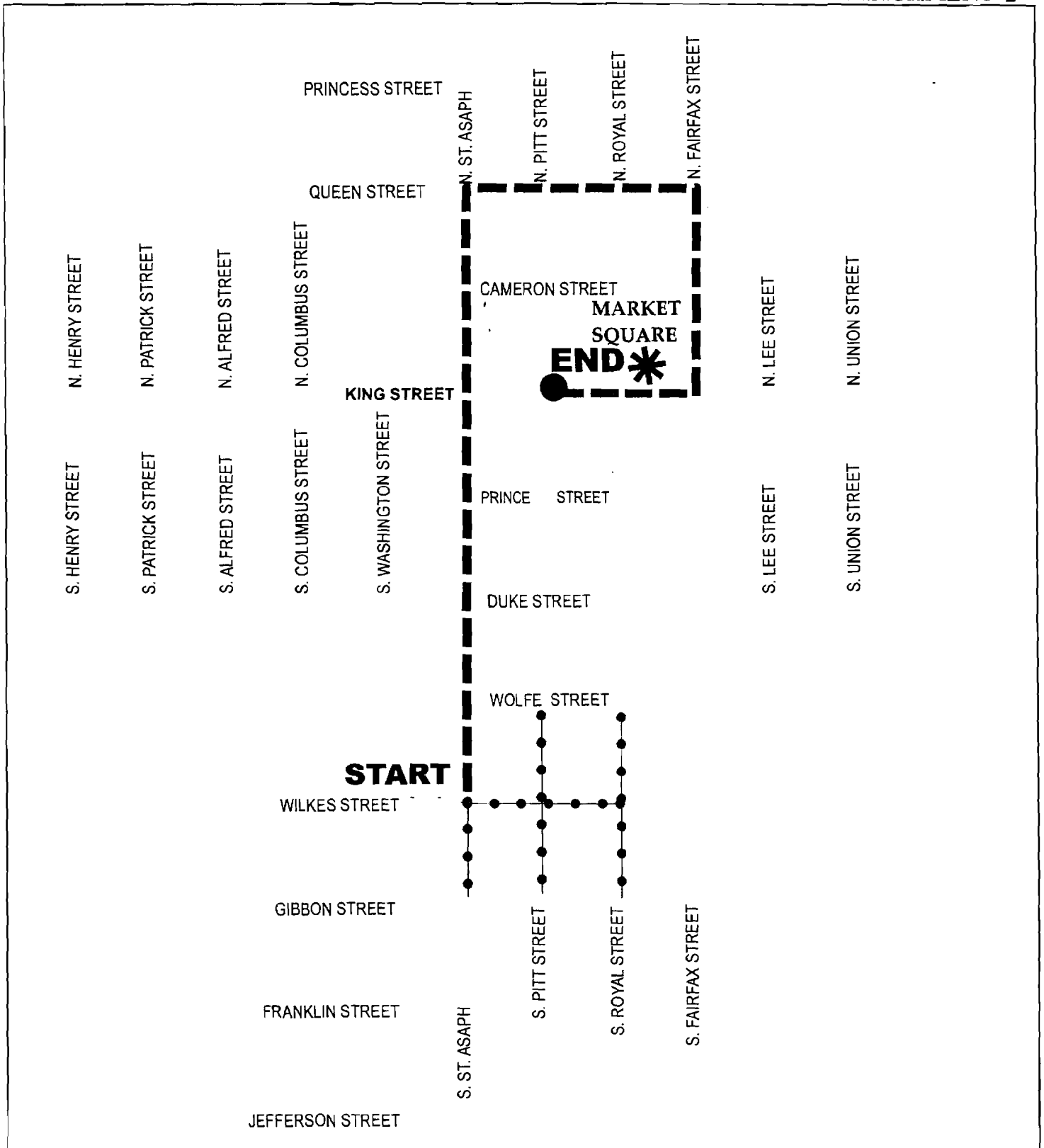
Leslie Clark, Division Chief, Recreation Services

Jack Browand, Special Projects Coordinator, Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities



2007 Proposed Scottish Christmas Walk Parade Route

-  REVIEW STAND
-  PARADE ROUTE
-  FORMATION AREA



Proposed 2008 Scottish Christmas Walk Parade Route

***** REVIEW STAND

--- PARADE ROUTE

●-●-● FORMATION AREA