



21st Annual River of Lights

November 25 – December 30, 2017

6:00pm – 9:30pm

Closed Dec. 24 & 25

Parking and Traffic Enforcement Plan for West Old Town Neighborhood Association Residents

The New Mexico BioPark Society's River of Lights has been held at the ABQ BioPark Botanic Garden every December for 21 years. We are committed to continually improving our existing plan to ease traffic concerns during the event for the West Old Town Neighborhood and surrounding areas. This year, additional signage has been ordered to help ensure a smoother experience for residents and guests. We understand that this is an inconvenience and appreciate the continued patience and corporation of our neighbors. Proceeds from River of Lights benefit the ABQ BioPark: your Zoo, Aquarium, Botanic Garden and Tingley Beach.

Below, is our Traffic Control Plan, designed to minimize the impact to the surrounding area.

Traffic Control Plan:

- City of Albuquerque Security will close the left turning lane eastbound at New York & Central.
- Officers at the New York & Central intersection have been trained to allow neighborhood residents in the area with their 2017 Neighborhood Parking Passes. Occasionally a substitute officer, who might be unaware of the passes, might be needed and you might be stopped.
- For the smoothest entry into the area, residents are asked to enter the neighborhood using Mountain Rd. and avoid the intersection of Central and New York.
- A Bernalillo County Sheriff's Officer (BCSO) will be stationed at Montoya St. and Panmunjon Rd. to assist residents and deter event attendees. The BCSO has been instructed to allow residents through the intersection with their parking pass or driver's license, showing their address.
- If your parking pass is on your dashboard, you should be allowed to drive through without being stopped. Like the above point, there are occasionally substitute officers who are not aware of the parking pass. **All cars without a parking pass on their dashboard will be stopped** so that only neighborhood residents can enter. The officer might ask to see your driver's license, to prove you live in the area; this is the exception and not the norm.

- Two (2) electric “no parking in neighborhood” signs will be posted at the entrances of the neighborhood on weekends until December 13, when they will be posted every day until December 30.
- Montoya St. will have “no parking any time” signs up for the duration of the event so that Montoya remains uncongested.
- Three (3) large electronic signs in the area will advertise park and ride to help direct traffic to the Zoo.
- Except for the left turn lane at New York and Central, there are NO lane closures for this event.

To minimize congestion, event attendees are strongly encouraged to use our Park & Ride service on select nights. ART buses from the westside will be available Friday and Saturday nights, to alleviate traffic on nights that have traditionally been the busiest. A partnership with Uber has been created for this event and will soon be added to the River of Lights website. Park and Ride services are listed on all our marketing pieces, including magazine ads, radio commercials, event and media websites, bookmarks, posters and social media.

Parking passes with the suggested route will be available from your neighborhood association president. Copies of this information sheet will be available on riveroflights.org as well as on the River of Lights Facebook page.