



**APPLICATION FOR USE OF
PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY FOR EVENT**

The following special event has been approved by the Special Events Committee.

Submitted by: Denise Miller

Event name: September First Fridays

Event Date: September 4, 2026

Street Closure: Michigan St from Wayne St to Washington St

Closure Times: 1:00 pm to 11:00 pm

Sidewalk Closure: Yes No

Comments: Block party vendors, food vendors and Studebaker cars on display.

**CITY OF SOUTH BEND, INDIANA
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS**

Elizabeth A. Maradik, President

Murray L. Miller, Member

Abigail E. Magas, Member

Joseph R. Molnar, Vice President

Breana N. Micou, Member

Attest: Hillary R. Horvath, Clerk

Date: June 23, 2026



City of South Bend Special Event Application

City and Regional Event

\$50 application fee if filed 60 days or greater (up to 360 days) in advance of event

\$100 expedited application fee if filed 30-59 days in advance of event

Please Bring Completed Application and Payment to:
Public Works Service Center, 731 S. Lafayette Blvd., South Bend, IN

Review the Instructions on the Special Events page before completing the application. City and Regional Special Event applications must be submitted more than 30 days in advance of the event date or the application will not be accepted.

Section A – Applicant Information

Date of Application: 05/04/26 Organization Name: Downtown South Bend, Inc

Applicant (Contact) Name: Jessica Bamber

Applicant (Contact) Phone: 574-210-9542 cell Contact Email: jbamber@downtownsouthbend.com

Address: 217 S. Michigan St City/State/ZIP: South Bend, IN 46601

List any professional event organizer, event service provider or commercial fundraiser that is authorized to work on your behalf to plan, produce and/or manage your event.

Organization Name: _____ Contact Name: _____

Contact Phone: _____ Contact Email: _____

Address: _____ City/State/ZIP: _____

Section B – Event Information

Event Name: September First Fridays Event Type: (Festival, Race, Parade, Other): Festival

Event Classification: Non-Profit* For-Profit

City (Civic) Sponsored Other (If Other, please describe): _____

*The Special Events Committee may request proof of non-profit status.

Provide a brief description and timeline of event (Note: A detailed map plan is required in Section H of this application. The description should be a summary overview.)

Date of Event Setup [mm/dd/yy]: 09/04/2026 Time: 1:00PM

Date of Event [mm/dd/yy]: 09/04/2026 Begin Time: 5:00PM

End Date of Event [mm/dd/yy]: 09/04/2026 End Time: 9:00PM

Event Cleanup Completion [mm/dd/yy]: 09/04/2026 Time: 11:00PM

Rain/Alternative Date: If yes, please provide the date: _____

Total anticipated attendance: 3,000

The proposed event will require the closing of: Streets Sidewalks

Is the event ticketed or includes fees? Yes No

IF YES:

- List fees and fee groups below:

Does the event have any partnered sponsorships? Yes No

IF YES:

- List the number of sponsors at each level of partnered sponsorship:

Renewal by Anderson, U93

Is this a returning special event or part of a series of special events? Yes No

IF YES:

- Provide the date, location, and attendance of past special events and/or future planned events in the series:

2026 marks the 17th anniversary for DTSB First Fridays. There is typically 1,000 to 15,000 in attendance at First Fridays throughout the year. The events are located on Michigan Street.

IF YOUR EVENT IS A PARADE, RACE, OR OTHER PROCESSIONAL-TYPE EVENT, complete Section C. Otherwise, continue to Section D.

Section C – Parades, Races, and other Processional Events

What is the estimated number of parade/race spectators on the proposed route? _____

Describe any sound equipment that will be used in the parade/race:

Does the event have participant categories? For example, a run that has different race divisions or a parade with separate walking/marching groups.

Yes No

IF YES:

- List categories and anticipated participants per category:

IF YOUR EVENT IS A PARADE, please provide a supplement writing describing the approximate number and type(s) of animals, vehicles, and floats participating in the parade? (Note: If using animals in a parade, event organizers are responsible for cleaning up animal waste left on the parade route.) Describe parade participants below:

Section D – Equipment, Set-up, and Logistics

Are you hiring a company to provide entertainment, games or inflatables? Yes No

IF YES:

- You must submit proof of insurance for all stage and entertainment companies three (3) weeks before the event.
- Describe any hired entertainment:

Will you be staking any tents, inflatables, portable restrooms or any other anchorings? Yes No

IF YES:

- You must provide proof of locates (locate number) two (2) weeks prior to your event. Locates can be found by calling 811.

Does your event include the use of fireworks or other pyrotechnics? Yes No

IF YES:

- Depending on the potential fire risk, applicants may need to receive approval of the South Bend Fire Department (process facilitated by event coordinator).
- Only consumer grade fireworks can be used during certain time frames (July 4th and New Year's).
 - A permit must be applied for with the Indiana Department of Homeland Security for Commercial Grade Fireworks show.
- All entertainment events should have a permit from the [IDHS Amusement and Entertainment Permit](#).
- Describe the event's proposed fire-related entertainment:

Will there be any musical entertainment features at the event? Yes No

IF YES:

- Describe the type of music, schedule of sound check/performances, and the names of any artists performing:

There are bands or local solo artists that perform at First Fridays

For stage inspections, contact the Department of Homeland Security at 317-232-2222.

IF YOUR ROUTE CROSSES OVER A STATE ROAD OR A BRIDGE, please contact the following for permission:

State, INDOT: Michael Hurt, mhurt1@indot.in.gov, 219-851-1426

County Bridges: Andy Hayes, ahayes@co.st-joseph.in.us, 574-235-9626

Section E – Food

Are you having food at your event (food vendors, caterers, food trucks, etc.)? Yes No

IF YES:

- The event coordinator must apply for and receive a St. Joseph County Health Department Temporary Event Permit.
- Vendor(s) must have a City of South Bend business license for Food Vending Vehicle. (Contact Michelle Adams at Madams@southbend.in.gov)
- Vendor(s) must also apply for and receive a St. Joseph County Health permit. Health Permits must be filed with the county 30 days prior to the proposed event. Each vendor must obtain necessary permits to serve on-site and display these permits at the event.
- All applications and guidelines can be found at the St. Joseph County Health Department Food Service website: sjchd.org/food-service.

Please select food sales types: Food Vendor Caterer Food Truck Other: _____

IF A FOOD TRUCK, please list company name:

This will change every month.

Describe how food will be cooked and served as well as any preventative safety measures:

Section G – Contingency and Strategic Planning

For each of the following, please provide detailed descriptions. If you run out of space, attach a response to this application submission:

- **Emergency Safety Plan** – This plan should include, but is not limited to:
 - The number of public safety personnel.
 - If hiring a private security service, provide contact information, proof of insurance and the number of hired event personnel.
 - Proposed internal communications systems and public address systems.

The VPA ambassadors will attend the event to monitor the crowd, as well as the SBPD downtown safety patrol officers

- **Proposed Cleanup Plan** – This plan should include, but is not limited to:
 - Measures in place to collect and remove trash, litter and recyclables.

There will be trash boxes in addition to the stand alone trash bins on the corners.
The VPA ambassadors and DTSB staff will make sure that the area is cleaned after the event.

- **Inclement Weather Plan** – This plan should include, but is not limited to:
 - Safety measures that will be taken in the event of a tornado warning, tornado watch, thunderstorm, and extreme temperatures.
 - Rain date.
 - Weather information and forecasts can be found at <https://www.weather.gov/>

DTSB will closely monitor the forecast during the week of the event. If the weather looks threatening, DTSB will cancel the outdoor portion. If unforeseen inclement weather occurs the day of the event, DTSB will close early and encourage visitors to either leave the event or seek shelter in nearby business.

- **Proposed Lost and Found Plan** – This plan should include, but is not limited to:
 - A description of the use of signage, announcements on public address systems or pre-event handouts.

The VPA ambassadors handle lost and found in the downtown area.

Section H – Site Plan / Route Map

Site Plan / Route Map - For All Events:

Provide an attached map with the geographic locations of all event items listed below.

- Outline of entire event venue including the names of all affected streets and areas.
- Clear markings for street closures and a schedule for each. **Applicants should ensure all roadway (right of way) closure times are specific and separate from the event setup and event start/end times (i.e., roadway closures times may not be perfectly identical or linked to the duration of the event).**
 - All bridge closures require County Engineering approval. (*County Bridges: Andy Hayes, ahayes@co.st-joseph.in.us, 574-235-9626*)
 - All state road Closures require INDOT approval. (*State, INDOT: Michael Hurt, mhurt1@indot.in.gov, 219-851-1426*)
- Location of fencing, barriers, and/or barricades. Indicate any removable fencing and exit locations for emergency purposes.
- Location of all stages, platforms, bleachers, grandstands, tents, booths, cooking areas, vehicles, trailers, and other temporary structures. **Applicants should also clearly mark locations of food and alcohol serving or sales, if applicable.**
- The location(s) and number of all portable toilets and wash stations.
- The location(s) and number of all trash and recycling containers, including dumpsters.
- The location of generators or any source of electricity.
- Traffic plan and map, including proposed loading/drop off areas, barricades, secured areas, vehicle and bicycle parking areas, and considerations for TRANSPO bus route changes.

Section I – Mitigation of Impact

IF YOU ARE USING AND/OR CLOSING PUBLIC SIDEWALKS OR STREETS:

- You are required to notify area business owners and residents in writing 15 days prior to the event.

Attach a copy of the brochure or door hanger distributed to all affected residents/businesses/neighborhood groups describing the event purpose, date and time.

Section J – Insurance

A Certificate of Insurance (copy) confirming the existence of a liability policy (General Liability and Automobile Liability) of not less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$2,000,000 aggregate, which specifically names the City of South Bend, IN as an additionally insured for the event must be submitted. Copy of Certificate of Insurance must be submitted two (2) weeks prior to the date of the event.

Section K – Indemnity & Hold Harmless Agreement

City of South Bend Special Events Committee

Indemnity & Hold Harmless Agreement

Date: 05/04/2026 Event Date: 09/04/2026

Event Name: September First Fridays - Dog Days of Summer

Organization: Downtown South Bend, Inc

Applicant (Contact) Name: Jessica Bamber

Applicant (Contact) Phone: 574-210-9542 cell Alt. Phone: 574-282-1110

Email: jbamber@downtownsouthbend.com

Address: 217 S. Michigan St, City/State/ZIP: South Bend, IN 46601

Event Location (Please describe):
Michigan Street from Washington to Wayne.

Length of Event (Dates/Times): 09/04/2026 from 5:00pm to 9:00pm

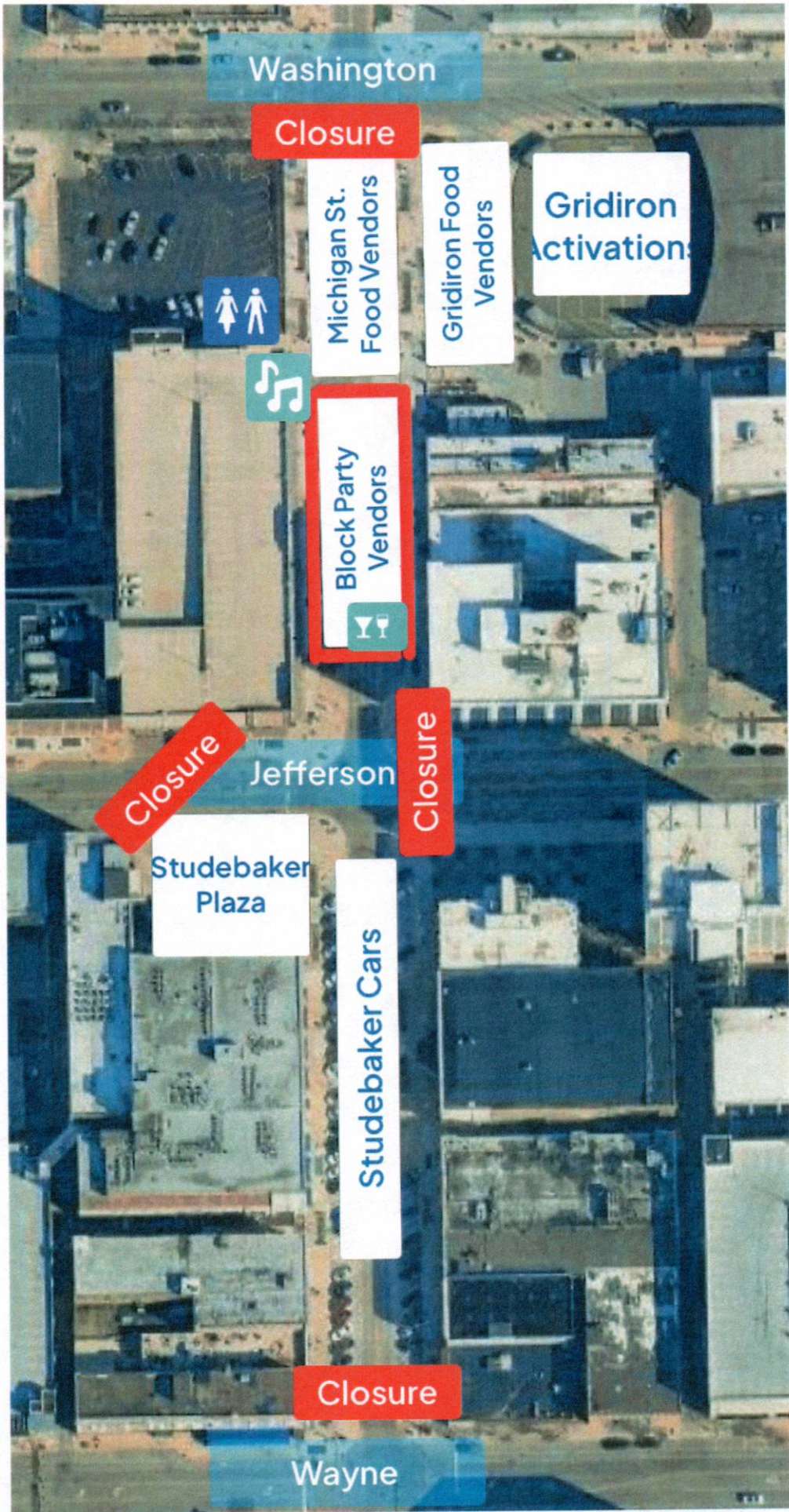
Insurance Amount: This event is insured for no less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$2,000,000 in aggregate, and the certificate of insurance includes a rider naming City of South Bend, Special Events Committee, and Board of Public Works as additionally insured for the event.

Organization Name: Downtown South Bend, Inc agrees to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the City of South Bend, Indiana, its agents, officers, and employees (collectively ("City"), from any liability, loss, costs, damages or expenses, including attorney fees, which the City, may suffer or incur as a result of any claims or actions which may be made against the City, its agents, employees, or subdivisions by any person, including a participant in the activity, arising out of the approval of this request by the City, through the Board of Public Works, to close a portion of the public right-of-way for the event described above, or for any harm or damage alleged to have occurred because of the holding of the special event. The undersigned certifies that he/she is authorized to bind the APPLICANT to these terms.

Signed on this Date: 05/03/2026

Authorized Organizer Signature: *J Bamber*

Printed Name and Title: Jessica Bamber, Director of Events and Strategic Partnerships



Washington

Closure

Michigan St.
Food Vendors

Gridiron Food
Vendors

Gridiron
Activations



Block Party
Vendors



Closure

Jefferson

Closure

Studebaker
Plaza

Studebaker Cars

Closure

Wayne

