

May 9, 2010

Downtown streets to be closed for block party

PORTLAND - The Portland Main Street program announced last week the schedule for street closures on Saturday, May 15, for the "Downtown Block Party" in downtown Portland.

Starting at 8 a.m. on May 15, the 200 block of Kent Street - from Academy Street to Bridge Street - will be closed for event setup, as will Bridge Street, between Water Street and Maple Street. The 100 block of Kent Street will remain open until 1 p.m., but parking will be limited to the west side of the street. At 1 p.m., the 100 block of Kent Street - from Bridge Street to Grand River Avenue - will be closed. All vehicles must be removed from this area by 2 p.m. to allow setup of the Portland Cruiser's classic car "Cruise-In." All downtown public parking lots - including the City Hall parking lot - will remain open throughout the event.

The event begins at 2 p.m., with the car show beginning at 3 p.m. in downtown Portland.

"We have a lot of setup work to do that morning due to the size of the event," said Main Street Manager Patrick Reagan. "We'll be setting up our main stage, our Party Pavilion tent, vendor spaces, all of our kid's activities, and also the car show."

"The Promotions and Marketing Committee is very excited about this new event," said Reagan.

"We're really happy with the buzz that this event has created, and we're looking forward to a fun, family-friendly event on May 15."

For more information and a schedule of events on the 2010 Portland Downtown Block Party, please visit www.portlandmainstreet.org.

The goal of the Portland Main Street program is to actively revitalize Portland's vibrant, charming, and unique downtown into a gathering place-one that uses broad-based community support to (1) provide opportunities to entrepreneurs; (2) sustain a strong economic foundation for the region; and (3) safeguard history, tradition, and a sense of community for residents and visitors.

For more information on how you can be part of this mission, visit the Portland Main Street website at www.portlandmainstreet.org or call the Portland Main Street offices at (517) 647-5027.

- From Portland Main Street
