

Solano Avenue Stroll Parade – General Information:

The parade route now ends at “Masonic” (in Albany).

Solano Avenue Stroll parade participants, please familiarize yourself with the following information:

The parade travels west-bound (down-hill) on Solano Avenue from Berkeley to Albany. The route is seven-eighths of a mile.

The entire parade must move as a whole-body down Solano Avenue at a regulated speed to prevent gaps, triggered by parade participants stopping to perform, amongst other things. Gaps, once created are difficult to fill.

Please do not stop for any reason except for a health and/or safety issue.

Parade Staging:

The Parade Participants begin checking-in at 8:15AM and absolutely no later than 9:00AM! The Parade Coordinator (Jan Snidow or a temporary replacement) will be **at the intersection of Colusa and Solano**, wearing a fluorescent “safety” vest that reads "SOLANO STROLL" on the breast and back. After you check in, the Parade Coordinator will confirm your position(s).

Day-of-event sign-ups are \$100 cash [only], and to be paid at “KNA Copy Centre” (1865 Solano) prior to check-in. Once you have your payment confirmation from KNA, check-in and you will be assigned your number.

The Solano Avenue Association Parade Coordinator is Jan Snidow. Jan is awesome. She is a seasoned pro at running the Solano Stroll Parade. Jan has been on the Solano Avenue Association Board of Directors since 1999! Jan's number at the "Mane Alley" Salon is: 510.528.6889 Call her with specific questions. Be easy on her, this is her work number.

After you check-in, parade entries with vehicles will line-up on Colusa, between Solano and Marin. All other entries will be staged on Fresno (one block east) between Solano and Marin. **Have your coordinator check-in early (not your entire group) and have your parties meet you in the appropriate staging areas.**

You can use the parade line-up that we send to you as a rough guide. Smaller groups may want to designate a meeting place close to the staging area prior to the Solano Avenue Stroll. We ask that just one person from your organization check-in.

Technically there is no “per group” limit to the number of individual participants for your parade entry; please let us know if you expect more than fifty people or two vehicles.

Pets, other than domestic animals are not allowed in the Solano Stroll Parade.

There will be no throwing candy during the parade.

But now hear us out, if you have a member of your party travel right next to the crowd, on both sides, **you can hand out candy/items toward the open hands of people expecting something from you, and you have eye contact with them.** There is a big difference between using this tactic and just blindly tossing hard objects into a crowd of people who may or may not actually be paying attention to you.

Key Sentence: You can hand out candy/items towards the open hands of people expecting something from you, and you have eye contact with them.

Thank you in advance for participating safely!

Parade Judging:

The Parade is judged and prizes are to be announced. "Viewing" by the judges will be at the Event Grandstand. (1451 Solano at Sante Fe) about three fifths the way down. It is acceptable to stop there briefly to perform, but otherwise it is essential that the **parade keep moving**. Prizes are to be announced.

Additional Information:

The Solano Avenue Association does not automatically produce signage for VIP and other participants; nor do we assign VIP's a vehicle to ride in during the Parade. If you do need assistance of any kind, please let us know.

At the end of the parade route, Albany Police Officers will direct traffic in both the south-bound (left) and north-bound (right) direction depending on whichever direction has less traffic.

We will be emailing the parade line-up to you about a week prior to the event. You can also receive your line-up information at the event when you check in.

We have spent a significant amount of time on how to stage the Parade, and it is in the state of constant evolution. If you have any suggestions, please let us know. We are learning - still.

The most important thing you must do in the parade is be safe. The second most important is to have fun!

Thank you for your attention and cooperation.

Additional Information for parade volunteers:

- **Each monitor** will be assigned a group on entrants to help organize prior to the parade start and then continue to monitor (the assigned group) as the parade goes down the street. Monitors may be given safety vests and whistles to help with the initial organization later for crowd control.
- **Monitor's job** is to watch the crowd and help maintain the safety of all viewers and participants while keeping the parade moving. Please do not talk with other monitors unless security or safety is an issue. Please call block captains as needed to assist with any safety or security issues.
- **Keep the parade moving** to avoid large gaps in the parade, triggered by Parade Participants stopping to perform, amongst other things. Gaps, once created are difficult to fill.
- **The parade will end at Masonic.** Please bring your vests and whistles back to the first aid station adjacent to the band stand.
- **After the Stroll Ends at 6 pm.** You are invited to join the other stroll volunteers for a thank you dinner at a pre-determined Solano Avenue restaurant, provided by the SAA.

Never Call 911 from a cell phone at the Solano Stroll:

Albany Police/Fire/Medical: **510.525.7300**

Berkeley Police/Fire/Medical: **510.981.5911**

Portable Toilets are approximately every-other block.

First Aid can be found at:

Albany Fire Department – Solano at Masonic

Berkeley Fire Department – Solano at Colusa

California Bank and Trust – 1451 Solano at Sante Fe (Headquarters)

KNA Copy Centre – 1865 Solano at Fresno

Lost Property and Family Members: 1451 Solano at Sante Fe (Headquarters)

Solano Stroll T-Shirts:

Albany Chamber of Commerce: 1108 Solano at Kains

California Bank and Trust: 1451 Solano Avenue at Sante Fe

The Powder Box Salon: 1757 Solano Avenue at Ensenada

Shuttles will offer free rides up and down the length of Marin Avenue from 10-7 pm from the North Berkeley BART station to the Stroll and it stops at intersections with stop-lights on Marin.

Free “valet” bicycle parking at Wells Fargo bank (1800 Solano at Modoc) and a vacant lot (1254 Solano at Masonic).