

Contact Information:

Jessica Didow  
610.655.6234  
media@readingpa.org



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Traveling To and Through the City of Reading on September 12, 2015**

On September 12, thousands of people will flood the streets of our City to watch the Reading 120, an international cycling competition that is staking its claim as the greatest single day road race in all of North, South and Central America and to help Reading make it into the Guinness Book of World Records as Dancing on the Street tries, for the third year in a row, to break the record for largest group salsa. Currently, the title for largest group salsa, which was set with 2,067 dancers in 2014, is held by the City of Cincinnati.

In anticipation of these events, roads are being closed, no parking signs are going up, and traffic will be rerouted in a few places. The community is being advised that they may experience traffic delays. Police officers will be stationed at all major intersections and half streets to keep all drivers and cyclists safe.

#### **Closed Streets and Areas of No Parking**

To prepare for the Reading 120, 'No Parking' signs will be posted Thursday, Sept 10, 2015 along the entire race course, which includes 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Streets, from Bingaman Street to Walnut Street, Walnut Street, Washington Street from 5<sup>th</sup> Street to 11<sup>th</sup> Street, and the 500 block of Bingaman Street. To view a map of the race, please visit [www.reading120.com](http://www.reading120.com).

Reading Police will begin towing vehicles from the race course at 4:00 AM on the day of the race. If your vehicle is towed, it can be claimed at Vince's Towing, 1725 N 5<sup>th</sup> Street in Reading next to George Field. Go directly to Vince's Towing to claim your vehicle.

On Friday, September 11, around 5:00 PM, streets downtown will be closing to for set up. Penn, Cherry and Court Streets will be closed from 4<sup>th</sup> Street to 6<sup>th</sup> Street. This area will remain shut down until Saturday at approximately 5 pm. However, the 400 block of Penn Street will remain closed until approximately 9:00 PM for the Dancing on the Street Festival.

To gain access to the City, Penn Street will remain open to 4<sup>th</sup> Street. Vehicle traffic into the City will be directed to either go north on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street or south on 4<sup>th</sup> Street to get around the race course.

#### **Rerouted Traffic**

Three intersections will be "halved" to permit a small amount of traffic to cross. At the intersection of 5<sup>th</sup> and Walnut Streets, vehicles still will be able to travel north and south on 5<sup>th</sup> Street in a modified pattern. On the south side of Reading, vehicles at the intersection of 6<sup>th</sup> Street and Bingaman Streets will be directed to turn east on to Bingaman St. And at intersection at 5<sup>th</sup> Street and Bingaman Streets, local residents approaching from the 400 block of Bingaman will be able to turn south onto 5<sup>th</sup> Street .

#### **Free Parking Options**

The Reading Parking Authority (RPA) will open the following garages free to the public: South Fourth and Cherry Street Garage, the Chiarelli Garage (North Third and Court Streets), the Reed and Court Street Garage, the BARTA Inter Modal Garage (700 Blocks of Franklin and Cheery Streets), and the Doubletree Garage (600 Block of Court Street).

Shuttle buses will provide transportation from the Doubletree Garage, departing from Court Street, to the Fire Tower on Skyline Drive and to both satellite parking lots (See Satellite Parking & Shuttle Bus Service below).

The Poplar and Walnut Street Garage will be open; however, inaccessible throughout the race event. City residents affected by the street closures may park their cars in this garage, however, they will not be able to retrieve them on Saturday until after 4:00 PM.

Garages will open on Friday evening at 11:00 PM and remain open through Sunday until 6:00 PM.

The Cherry Street Lot between Fifth and Sixth Street and the lot on the 700 block of Washington Street will not be open to the public on race day.

For runners and spectators, there will be limited on street parking along Skyline Drive to List Road atop Mount Penn. Runners are encouraged to use either the satellite parking lots or the Doubletree Garage (See Satellite Parking & Shuttle Bus Service below). Spectators are welcome to use any of the garages listed above, all are within an easy walk to the race course.

The Reading School District will open their parking garage (free) at the Reading Intermediate High School (North Twelfth and Walnut Streets, accessible only from North Twelfth Street). This will provide easy access to City Park and the Family Fun Zone.

### **Satellite Parking & Shuttle Bus Service**

VF Outlet Center, 801 Hill Avenue, Wyomissing, will provide free surface parking. Participants must use the parking lot located behind Willoughby's Bar and Grill, which is accessible from North Park Road. Shuttle buses will provide transportation from this lot to the Doubletree Parking Garage (Court Street) and then to the Fire Tower (Skyline Drive) before circling back to the VF Outlet Parking Lot.

Antietam Middle/High School, 100 Antietam Road, Reading, will also be providing free surface parking. Shuttle buses will provide transportation from this lot to the Fire Tower on Skyline Drive and then to the Doubletree Parking Garage (Court Street) before returning to Antietam Middle/High School.

NOTE: During the Reading Loop of the race, anticipated to occur from 1:30-3:30 PM, shuttle buses will not be able to access the Fire Tower, but instead will stop at Skyline Drive and List Road.

All shuttle buses are scheduled to begin at 6:00 AM and finish at 6:00 PM.

If there are any questions regarding the shuttles, please contact Craig Peiffer at [craig.peiffer@readingpa.org](mailto:craig.peiffer@readingpa.org) or 484.663.4242.

For parking garage information, please call the Reading Parking Authority at 610.373.0796.

All other city-related questions can be directed to Jessica Didow in the Mayor's office at 610.655.6234.

For information about the Reading 120, visit <http://reading120.com/> and for information about Dancing on the Streets and to register as a participant, please visit <http://www.rizeprogram.com/> or call 484.529.4346.

# # #