



City of Murphy
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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 10, 2017

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Annual familiarization ride to take Santa through City

MURPHY (November 10, 2017) To ensure that Santa Claus is completely familiar with all the streets in Murphy so that no residences are missed on Christmas Eve, the Murphy Fire Department has once again volunteered to take the global gift-giver on a two-week familiarization ride around the City.

“We are very happy to comply with this request from Santa,” says Fire Chief Del Albright. “If the familiarization ride results in making sure that no homes are missed, then it is well worth it. What the jolly old elf may not know is that we are telling everyone about it, so Murphy kids and their parents can all greet him on his trip through Murphy.”

Starting on Friday, Dec. 8 and continuing for about two weeks, Santa will ride atop a Murphy fire engine with lights ablaze, and the bell ringing. An occasional blast from the siren will be sounded to announce the arrival. The rides will cover every street in Murphy except short cul-de-sacs. Departure from the Fire Station will occur promptly at 6:30 p.m. each evening, continuing until 8:30 p.m.

“Santa will ride with us every evening, except Sundays. He’ll be securely strapped to the engine, so he won’t be able to disembark and interact with anyone. In fact, to complete the entire City within the 14 days, the engine will not be able to stop for any length of time,” said the Chief.

Each neighborhood and subdivision will be included in the schedule. However, should there be rain or a real-life emergency, the schedule for a neighborhood or subdivision may be altered.

An interactive map, with live tracking, will be posted on <http://www.murphytx.org/480/Santas-Ride>.

Because Santa can’t get off the engine, firefighters, members of their families, and perhaps even some Council members will be distributing wrapped candy by tossing it from the back of the fire engine. As a precaution, officials ask that parents accompany small children and keep an eye on them as Santa makes his way through the neighborhood.

“We are very happy to take the North Pole visitor around the City, and we’ll make sure to point out all of the neighborhoods, subdivisions and areas within the City. That way, he and his reindeer do not miss any streets on Christmas Eve,” concluded the Chief.

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ABOUT MURPHY -- Murphy is a fast-growing community located in Collin County. The population is approximately 19,330, generally characterized as highly educated with a median household income above the state average. With more than 70 percent of the land developed, the community is dominated by single-family residences. City planners strive to preserve a country feel while exhibiting an aggressive economic development stance. Money Magazine has dubbed Murphy as the 27th Best Place to Live in America for small cities, and D Magazine placed Murphy as the fifth best suburb in the 2014 list, where it has consistently ranked in the top 10.