



City of Gering, Nebraska

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RE: Public Safety Plan for International Food Fair – Oregon Trail Days ~~2021~~

To continue with a safe and successful event, the City of Gering will implement safety measures for the International Food Fair. To assist the Oregon Trail Days Committee, fire department personnel will help with drafting and implementing a Public Safety Plan during the event.

Per 2009 International Fire Code, adopted by the City of Gering, Section 403:

403.2: Where the fire code official determines that an indoor or outdoor gathering of persons has an adverse impact on public safety through diminished access to buildings, structures, fire hydrants and fire apparatus access roads or where such gatherings adversely affect public safety services of any kind, the fire code official shall have the authority to order the development of, or prescribe a plan for, the provisions of an approved level of public safety.

This plan will reference several codes and address safety concerns during the public event, specifically vendor and food concession distribution. It is expected the Oregon Trail Days Committee will continue monitoring the event with Crowd Managers. It is suggested a ratio of 1 Crowd Manager to every 250 persons.

The fire department will create a safety checklist for vendors to follow prior to operating during the food fair. The checklist will address several safety concerns and reference, at a minimum, the Fire Code. It is hopeful the OT Committee has a means to distribute this checklist prior to the event to inform vendors on the expectations of safety measures being implemented.

Prior to the event, the fire code official and/or his assistants, will visit each vendor to assist them with complying with the safety checklist. Prior to operating at the Food Fair, the vendor must receive the approval from the fire code official and/or his assistants. If for some reason issues cannot be solved, the fire code official is authorized to prevent the operations of any existing, stove, oven, furnace, incinerator, boiler or any other heat-producing device or appliance found to be defective or in violation of code requirements and when the inspection shows the existence of an immediate fire hazard or when imperiling human life (**IFC, Section 603.7**)

During the International Food Fair fire personnel will be available to assist the OT Days Committee on any safety concerns and routinely inspect the event and vendors to create the safest atmosphere as possible.