

**City of Kingston
Report to Council
Report Number 26-113**

To: Mayor and Members of Council
From: Paige Agnew, Commissioner, Growth & Development Services
Resource Staff: Kyle Compeau, Director, Licensing and Enforcement
Date of Meeting: June 16, 2026
Subject: Queen’s Orientation – Noise By-Law Exemption Application

Council Strategic Plan Alignment:

Theme: Policies & by-laws

Goal: See above

Executive Summary:

Queen’s University and the Alma Mater Society have submitted a joint application for exemptions to the City’s Noise By-Law for events scheduled to take place during their 2026 Orientation Week (Exhibit A).

Partners across Queen’s University are collaborating in the planning of the 2026 Residence Move-in Day (Friday, September 4 and Saturday, September 5) and the 2026 Fall Orientation activities (Saturday, September 5 through Monday, September 7, and Friday, September 11 through Sunday, September 13). These units include the Alma Mater Society, Housing and Ancillary Services, the Student Experience Office, the Office of the Vice-Provost and Dean of Student Affairs, Government Relations, and Athletics and Recreation.

Orientation Week includes several annual on-campus events which utilize amplified sound and require noise by-law exemptions. Exhibit B is a chart, organized by calendar date, which outlines the time and location of the events on Queen’s Main Campus and two events at West Campus. Exhibit C is a chart, organized by calendar date, which outlines the time and location of the events being held on City-owned property.

Compared to 2025, Queen’s University has reduced the number of events proposed on City-owned property from 11 to 7, with an effort to lessen impact on the community.

Some of these events include temporary road and lane closures to facilitate move-in activities, provide space for event setup, and protect pedestrian safety and movement. Closures related to

June 16, 2026

Page 2 of 6

the Queen's Move-In activities have been previously approved. Closures associated with Orientation activities will be approved by Transportation & Infrastructure Services pending approval of the noise exemptions included in this report. All closure requests are consistent with approvals in previous years.

Recommendation:

That Queen's University be granted an exemption from Schedule B of City of Kingston By-Law Number 2004-52, "A By-Law to Regulate Noise", to permit the following events during Orientation Week:

Main Campus:

For the area of Queen's University Main Campus, bounded by Union Street, Barrie Street, Stuart Street, and Albert Street, between 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m., from Friday, September 4, 2026, to Monday, September 7, 2026, and Saturday, September 12, 2026, to Sunday, September 13, 2026;

West Campus:

For the area of Queen's University West Campus, north of Duncan McArthur Hall, bounded by Sir John A. Macdonald Boulevard, Stadium Lane, and Johnson Street, between 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m., from Friday, September 4, 2026, to Monday, September 7, 2026, and Saturday, September 12, 2026, to Sunday, September 13, 2026;

Public Property:

Events held on public property between September 6, 2026 and September 13, 2026, between approximately 6:00 a.m. and 10:30 p.m., including;

- a) "Glow Bash" – A glow-in-the-dark themed team building event for kinesiology and health science students at City Park (September 6, 2026, 6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.);
- b) A "Thundermugz", Engineering programming with structure building and obstacle course at City Park (September 7, 2026, 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.);
- c) A "Breakfast, Coverall Painting and Cheer Off", Orientation groups will be served breakfast, paint coveralls laid out on tarps and participate in a Cheer Off" at Victoria Park (September 7, 2026, 8:00 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.);
- d) A "Highland Games", Rotations and small group games in preparation for the Grease Pole, at City Park (September 12, 2026, 9:00 a.m. - 7:45 p.m.);
- e) A "Coverall Painting", Students paint coveralls at City Park (September 12, 2026, 11:30 a.m. – 9:30 p.m.);

June 16, 2026

Page 3 of 6

- f) A “Queen’s in the Park”, Orientation group engage with clubs and organizations at City Park (September 13, 2026, 6:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.); and
- g) A “Tournament of the Century and Tamming Ceremony”, Nursing orientation programming, at City Park (September 13, 2026, 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.).

Off Campus:

A “Grease Pole”, Students collaborate to retrieve a traditional Queen’s bonnet (tam) from the top of a greased pole, at Cummins Road (September 13, 2026, 6:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.).

June 16, 2026

Page 5 of 6

Options/Discussion:**Events on Public Property**

Orientation Week (September 5 through September 13, 2026) also includes events scheduled on public property. For 2026, Queen's University is requesting the use of public property for 7 events, spread across several City parks to lessen the impact for the community. The events scheduled on public property are included as part of Queen's University's request for exemptions to the City's Noise By-Law. The amplified noise associated with these events is not permitted at any time in residential areas, according to Section 4.2, under Schedule B of the City of Kingston's Noise Control By-Law Number 2004-52.

In addition, during the 2025 Orientation Week, the City did not receive any noise complaints related to the approved Orientation events. This reflects the effectiveness of the event planning, coordination with City Partners, and on-site mitigation measures implemented by Queen's University. Staff will continue to work with the event organizers to ensure that appropriate controls remain in place for 2026.

An advertisement of this request for exemption was placed on the City of Kingston website and in the Kingston Whig-Standard on May 5, 2026 (Exhibit D). This notice is published to give the public a chance to have input on the proposed request for exemption. Two comments from the public were received and they can be viewed on Exhibits E. Event organizers will provide City By-Law Enforcement and Kingston Police with a contact person during the events to allow for any issues or complaints that may arise to be communicated directly to them.

Associated Road and Lane Closures

Temporary road and lane closures will facilitate residence move-in and orientation activities, including closures of Albert Street, University Avenue, Collingwood Street, Stuart Street, and others. These have been discussed and reviewed with Transportation & Infrastructure Services and other city partners. Full details are included in Queen's application and follow practices used in 2025.

Existing Policy/By-Law

Council has granted exemptions to Noise By-Law Number 2004-52, "A By-Law to Regulate Noise" for Orientation Week events in the past, and the authority to do so is specifically granted to Council under Subsection 129(3) of the Municipal Act.

Notice Provisions

The Municipal Act no longer requires public notification, but notice is given in order to provide Council with community feedback before deciding on these requests.

An advertisement for this request for exemptions was posted on the City's website and in the Kingston Whig-Standard on May 5, 2026.

June 16, 2026

Page 6 of 6

Financial Considerations

The applicant for a noise exemption is required to pay a fee of \$369.00 to help cover the cost of processing the noise exemption request. This fee has been paid by Queen’s University.

Contacts:

Steve Mothersell, Manager, Enforcement Services, 613-546-4291 extension1307

Other City of Kingston Staff Consulted:

Karen Santucci, Director, Public Works and Solid Waste

Jon Hayter, Supervisor, Special Events & Marketing

Exhibits Attached:

- Exhibit A Correspondence from the Applicant
- Exhibit B Queen’s On-Campus Event Schedule
- Exhibit C Queen’s City Space Event Schedule
- Exhibit D Public Notice
- Exhibit E Public Comments



2026 Residence Move-In & Fall Orientation Joint Submission from Queen's University

Monday, April 27th, 2026

Partners across Queen's University are collaborating in the planning of the 2026 Residence Move-in Weekend (Friday, September 4th and Saturday, September 5th) and Fall Orientation activities (Saturday, September 5th through Monday, September 7th and Friday, September 11th through Sunday, September 13th). These partners include the Alma Mater Society, Housing & Ancillary Services, Student Experience Office, Office of the Vice-Provost and Dean of Student Affairs, Government Relations, and Athletics & Recreation. As requested, this package has been divided into components that include all related requests to city departments.

Residence Move-In Weekend Road Closure and Parking Requests

Queen's has been in regular contact with several city departments including Kingston Transit, Bylaw Enforcement and the Kingston Police Services in relation to Move-In Planning. Building on success from recent years, Queen's plans to host a two-day move-in beginning Friday, September 4th, with the majority of students arriving on Saturday, September 5th. We will again be using four scheduled move-in windows over the course of the day and directing families toward multiple routes and check-in areas, which helps smooth the flow of arrivals and mitigate traffic congestion. [Section A](#) consolidates the complete application package for temporary road closures, overnight parking restrictions, and one-way traffic designations to facilitate Residence Move-In on September 4th and 5th.

Fall Orientation Temporary Road Closure and Noise Bylaw Exemption Requests

The Alma Mater Society is requesting temporary road closures for three Fall Orientation activities. These requests do not include any associated policing resource requests. [Section B](#) consolidates the applications for temporary road closures associated with these activities and lists on-campus (Queen's property) road closures as information.

Fall Orientation activities include several annual on and off-campus events that require noise bylaw exemptions to allow the use of amplified voice and music. [Section C](#) lists events, by calendar date, that make up our exemption request and City Space location requests. To accommodate these events, Queen's requests an exemption from the Noise Control Bylaw to permit the use of amplified voice and music:

- For the area of Queen's University Main Campus (bounded by Union Street, Barrie Street, Stuart Street, and Albert Street) between the hours of 9:00 AM to 11:00 PM on Friday, September 4th through Monday, September 7th, 2026, and Saturday, September 12th through Sunday, September 13th, 2026.
- For the area of Queen's University West Campus North of Duncan McArthur Hall (bounded by Sir John A. Macdonald Boulevard, Stadium Lane, and Johnson Street) between the hours of 9:00 AM to 11:00 PM on Friday, September 4th through Monday, September 7th, 2026, and Friday, September 11th through Sunday, September 13th, 2026.
- For areas surrounding City Parks as approved by the City of Kingston Special Events team.

For Residence Move-In Weekend inquiries, please contact Kate Murray - Executive Director, Housing & Ancillary Services (kate.murray@queensu.ca). For Fall Orientation activities inquiries, please contact Molly Raffan - Director, Student Life (molly.raffan@queensu.ca). For Athletics and Recreation program inquiries, please contact Linda Melnick - Executive Director, Athletics & Recreation (linda.melnick@queensu.ca).



TO: Ian Semple, Director, Transportation Services
FROM: Kate Murray, Executive Director, Housing & Ancillary Services, Queen's University
DATE: April 6, 2026
SUBJECT: Application for temporary road direction change & planning for Residence Move-in 2025

I am writing to formally request changes to the direction of streets in the vicinity of Queen's campus, and parking restrictions to facilitate move-in to residence on Saturday, September 5, 2026.

As feedback from debriefing activities related to 2025 residence move-in were overwhelmingly positive, the same approach will be used in 2026. At this time, we do not anticipate any changes to our route maps or road closure requests from 2025.

Approximately 5,000 students will arrive this fall to live in our 18 residence buildings, on both main and west campus, over two days. Approximately 1100 students will move in on or before Friday, September 4, 2026. On Saturday, 3,900 students will move-in. We will use Richardson Stadium as a staging area for our busiest zones, representing 65% of arrivals, allowing us to better manage the flow of traffic arriving to campus to unload. Each student will be given a two hour move-in period (8am -10am, 10am – 12pm, 12pm-2pm, 2pm-4pm). This planned distribution will result in approximately 975 students moving in during each 2-hour block, across the 18 buildings. The City of Kingston has requested an earlier submission of Queen's University's Move-In and Orientation application package than in previous years. As a result, I am sharing the approved traffic plan for 2025, with an indication that Queen's Housing and Ancillary Services will work closely with Kingston Police, Kingston Transit, Queen's Campus Security and Emergency Services and Kingston By-Law Enforcement to develop a traffic flow plan and that we anticipate no changes to the plan for 2026.

In 2025, in consultation with city partners, we requested changes in street directions, road closures and overnight parking restrictions to facilitate an effective and timely move-in. Details of that request are outlined in this package, including a map of travel routes. Staff were stationed at the exterior of each building to provide general information and directions. We facilitated 'friendly towing' arrangements for the relocation of any cars that were parked on the designated streets.

In 2025, traffic lights were de-energized, so that police and Beacon Lite, traffic management specialists, can control traffic at these key intersections between 8am and 5pm as follows:

1. Traffic lights at Albert Street/ Union Street – 2 police officers to direct traffic
2. Traffic lights at Albert Street/ King Street – 1 police officer to direct traffic
3. Traffic lights at Union Street/University Avenue – 2 police officers to direct traffic
4. Four-way intersection Earl Street/University Avenue –1 police officer to direct traffic
5. Parking Lot, Tindall Field – 1 police officer to direct traffic
6. Parking Lot, 340 Union St – Auxiliary Officers to support traffic flow

Please let me know if you require any further details and thank you for your assistance in welcoming our new students to residence and the Kingston community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "KMurray".

Kate Murray
Executive Director, Housing & Ancillary Services (Interim)
Queen's University
(613) 533-6328



SECTION A: Street Re-Direction, Road Closures, Overnight Restrictions

We are not anticipating any significant changes from last year's move-in plans.

1) Albert Street

a) Parking Restrictions:

- i) Queen's University will place 'no parking' signage on Monday, August 31, 2026, to give advanced notice of the parking restrictions which begin Friday afternoon
- ii) The City will enforce parking restrictions on Albert Street between Union Street and King Street from Friday, September 4, at 4:00 PM until Saturday, September 5, 2026, at 5:00 PM. Queen's University will provide and place barricades restricting parking spots on Lower Albert Street.
- iii) Parking restrictions on the west side of Albert Street between Johnson Street and Union Street beginning on Saturday, September 5, 2026, from 7:00 AM until 5:00 PM.

b) Traffic Flow:

- i) Designated one-way traffic southbound on Albert Street between Union Street and King Street on Saturday, September 5, 2026, from 7:00 AM until 5:00 PM.
 - (1) The only exception is a designated lane for northbound traffic from Bader Lane to the Tindall Underground Parking Lot exit lane. This is to facilitate parking for the Red Zone. Pylons will block this lane.
(See Appendix A).

2) Bader Lane

a) Parking Restrictions:

- i) Queen's University will place 'no parking' signage on Monday, August 31, 2026, to give advanced notice of the parking restrictions which begin Friday afternoon.
- ii) As this is Queen's University property, we will implement parking restrictions from Friday, September 4, at 4:00 PM until Saturday, September 5, 2026, at 5:00 PM. Queen's to provide and place barricades.

b) Traffic Flow:

- i) Designated one-way traffic westbound on Bader Lane on Saturday, September 5, 2026, from 7:00 AM until 5:00 PM.

3) Collingwood Street

a) Parking Restrictions:

- i) Queen's University will place 'no parking' signage on Monday, August 31, 2026, to give advanced notice of the parking restrictions which begin Friday afternoon.
- ii) The City will enforce parking restrictions on Collingwood Street between Queen's Crescent and King Street from Friday, September 4, at 4:00 PM until Saturday, September 5, 2026, at 5:00 PM.

b) Traffic Flow:

- i) Designated one-way traffic southbound on Collingwood Street between Queen's Crescent and King Street on Saturday, September 5, 2026, from 7:00 AM until 5:00 PM.

4) Division Street

a) Road Closure

- i) Road closed between Earl Street and Clergy Street on Saturday, September 5, 2026, from 7:00 AM until 5:00 PM



5) Earl Street

a) Parking Restrictions

- i) Queen's University will place 'no parking' signage on Monday, August 31, 2026, to give advanced notice of the parking restrictions which begin Friday afternoon.
- ii) The City will enforce parking restrictions on Earl Street between Alfred Street and Frontenac Street from Friday, September 4, at 4:00 PM until Saturday, September 5, 2026, at 5:00 PM.
- iii) The City will enforce parking restrictions on Earl Street between Division Street and Alfred Street on Saturday, September 5, 2026, from 7:00 AM until 5:00 PM.

6) King Street

a) Parking Restrictions

- i) Queen's University will place 'no parking' signage on Monday, August 31, 2026, to give advanced notice of the parking restrictions which begin Friday afternoon.
- ii) The City will enforce parking restrictions on King Street between Lower University Avenue and Beverley Street on Friday, September 4, at 4:00 PM until Saturday, September 5, 2026, at 5:00 PM.

7) Queen's Crescent

a) Parking Restrictions

- i) Queen's University will place 'no parking' signage on Monday, August 31, 2026, to give advanced notice of the parking restrictions which begin Friday afternoon.
- ii) The City will enforce parking restrictions on Queen's Crescent between Albert Street and Collingwood Street from Friday, September 4, at 4:00 PM until Saturday, September 5, 2026, at 5:00 PM.

b) Traffic Flow:

- i) Designated one-way traffic westbound on Queen's Crescent between Albert Street and Collingwood Street on Saturday, September 5, 2026, from 7:00 AM until 5:00 PM.

8) Stuart Street

a) Parking Restrictions

- i) Queen's University will place 'no parking' signage on Monday, August 31, 2026, to give advanced notice of the parking restrictions which begin Friday afternoon.
- ii) The City will enforce parking restrictions on Stuart Street between University Avenue to Albert Street from Friday, September 4, at 4:00 PM until Saturday, September 5, 2026, at 5:00 PM.
- iii) Queens University will provide and place barricades restricting parking spots.

b) Traffic Flow:

- i) Designated one-way traffic westbound on Stuart Street between University Avenue to Albert Street on Saturday, September 5, 2026, from 7:00 AM until 5:00 PM.

9) St. Lawrence Avenue

a) Parking Restrictions

- i) Queen's University will place 'no parking' signage on Monday, August 31, 2026, to give advanced notice of the parking restrictions which begin Friday afternoon.
- ii) The City will enforce parking restrictions on St. Lawrence Avenue from Friday, September 4, at 4:00 PM until Saturday, September 5, 2026, at 5:00 PM.

b) Traffic Flow:



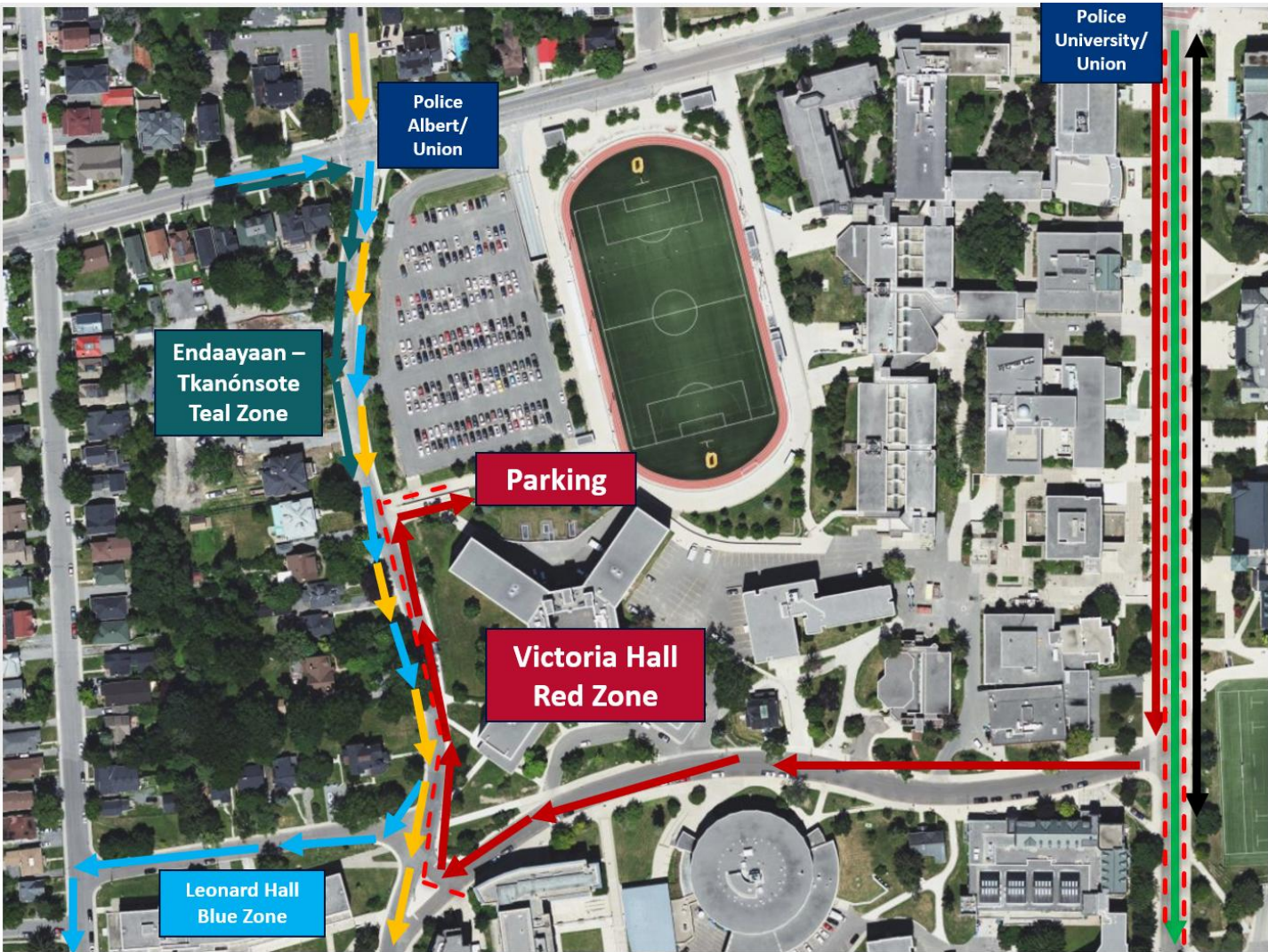
- i) Designated one-way traffic southbound on Saturday, September 5, 2026, from 7:00 AM until 5:00 PM.

10) University Ave

a) Traffic Flow:

- i) Designated one-way traffic southbound on University Avenue between Earl Street and Stuart Street on Saturday, September 5, 2026, from 7:00 AM until 5:00 PM.
- ii) Three lanes on University Avenue between Union and Stuart Street (See Appendix A):
 - (1) South bound lane for Red Zone
 - (2) South bound lane for Green Zone
 - (3) Transit bypass lane to be controlled by Transit Supervisor

APPENDIX A:

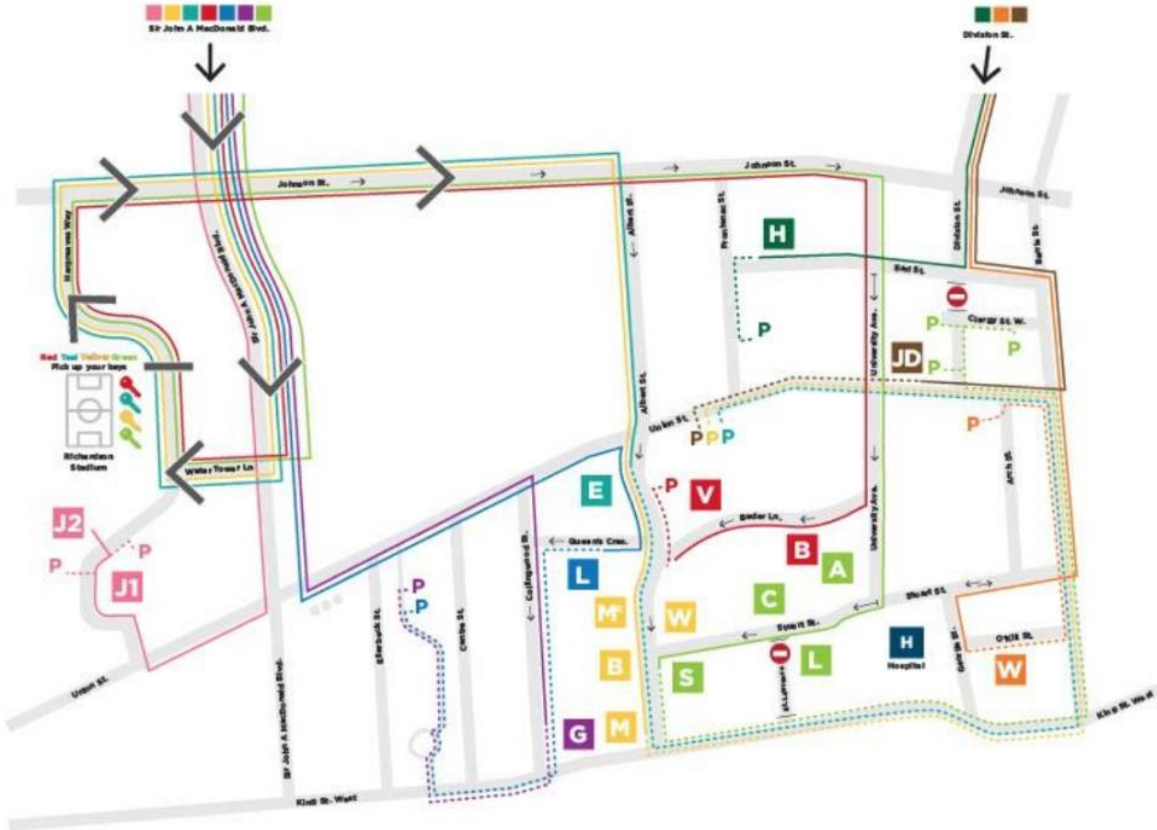




APPENDIX B:



2025 Move-In Map



Legend of Residences drop off zones

- E** Endaayaan-Tkanónsote
- L** Leonard Hall
- M** McNeill House
- B** Brant House
- M** Morris Hall
- W** Watts Hall
- G** Gordon Brockington House
- V** Victoria Hall
- B** Ban Righ Hall
- A** Adelaide Hall
- C** Chown Hall
- L** Leggett Hall
- S** David C. Smith House
- W** Waldron Tower
- H** Harkness Hall
- JD** John Deutsch University Centre
- J1** Jean Royce Hall Phase 1
- J2** Jean Royce Hall Phase 2

- driving directions to drop off zone
- ... directions to parking
- one way traffic
- P** parking
- ⊘** road closed



SECTION B: Fall Orientation Temporary Road Closure Requests

Application #1

Saturday, September 12, 2026

5:00 AM to 7:30 PM

Arts and Science Sidewalk Sale Event

University Avenue (Union Street to Stuart Street)

Application #2

Sunday, September 13, 2026

6:00 AM to 5:30 PM

Engineering Grease Pole Event

Cummins Road (East End)

Application #3

Sunday, September 6, 2026

9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Engineering Welcome Wednesday Event

Union Street from Fifth Field Company Lane to Division Street

Union Street, halfway from University Avenue to Division St, Division Street from Earl St. to Union St., Earl St. from Aberdeen St. to Division St., 5 Field Company Lane

Queen's On-Campus Road Closures *(as information)*

Fifth Field Company Lane, from Union Street to Founders Row will be closed on Queen's University main campus. As this is Queen's property, Queen's will close and monitor the street. Queen's University to assign Commissionaires to manage traffic and to provide and place barricades on Sunday, September 7th, from 2:00 PM to 8:00 PM.



SECTION C: Requests to the City

Queen's University's use of City Spaces (City Park and Victoria Park) is approved in advance by the Special Events Team. The Student Experience Office and Alma Mater Society collaborate on an ongoing basis throughout the year, beginning immediately after the conclusion of the orientation cycle, to identify areas for growth for the following year. Use of City Spaces is reflected in the table below. Events not occurring on campus or in city spaces are excluded.

Fall Orientation activities include several annual on and off-campus events that require noise bylaw exemptions to allow the use of amplified voice and music. This section lists events, by calendar date, that make up our exemption request. To accommodate these events, Queen's requests an exemption from the Noise Control Bylaw to permit the use of amplified voice and music:

- For the area of Queen's University Main Campus (bounded by Union Street, Barrie Street, Stuart Street, and Albert Street) between the hours of 9:00 AM to 11:00 PM on Friday, September 4th through Monday, September 7th, 2026, and Saturday, September 12th through Sunday, September 13th, 2026.
- For the area of Queen's University West Campus North of Duncan McArthur Hall (bounded by Sir John A. Macdonald Boulevard, Stadium Lane, and Johnson Street) between the hours of 9:00 AM to 11:00 PM on Friday, September 4th through Monday, September 7th, 2026, and Friday, September 11th through Sunday, September 13th, 2026.
- For areas surrounding City Parks as approved by the City of Kingston Special Events team.
- We have reduced our requests for City spaces to 7 orientation events, from 11 events in 2025. All events undergo an event sanctioning process to ensure that the appropriate risk mitigation strategies are in place for the safety of all attendees. Depending on the event, there may be Queen's First Aid responders or Queen's Student Constables present to assist in the event of an emergency. There will be amplified noise at all events requested for the city space. All space requests, with further details, have been communicated to the City of Kingston Special Events department.

Table 2: On-Campus Noise Bylaw Exemption Requests

#	Group	Location	Event Name	Event Description	Time	Request(s) to City
Friday September 4, 2026						
1	Student Affairs (Residence Life & Services)	Victoria Hall, Albert St (Queen's Cres to King St), Stuart St (University Ave to Albert St), Richardson Stadium	Residence Move-In	First-year incoming students will be moving into Residence throughout the day. Amplified music through speakers outside residence buildings and outside Richardson Stadium	17:00-20:00	Noise Exemption



Saturday, September 5, 2026						
2	Student Affairs (Residence Life & Services)	Victoria Hall, Albert St (Queen's Cres to King St), Stuart St (University Ave to Albert St), Richardson Stadium	Residence Move-In	First-year incoming students will be moving into Residence throughout the day. <i>Amplified music through speakers outside residence buildings and outside Richardson Stadium</i>	8:00-17:00	Noise Exemption
3	Student Affairs (SEO)	Tindall Field, Tindall Field Parking Lot, Mackintosh-Corry Hall	Welcome Home Night	3-4 activities happening on the field with booths on around perimeter. Students can participate in trivia, athletics, crafts, watch a movie, etc. <i>Amplified music through speakers.</i>	16:30-23:30	Noise Exemption
Sunday, September 6, 2026						
4	Student Affairs (SEO)	Tindall Field Parking Lot to Richardson Stadium along Union Street	Tricolour Parade and Stadium Welcome	Incoming students & Orientation leaders led by Queen's Band will travel from Tindall Parking Lot to Richardson Stadium. <i>Amplified music along Union Street by Queen's Bands.</i> <i>Amplified noise through crowd chatter and cheers.</i> <i>Amplified noise with speeches and music inside Richardson Stadium</i>	8:30-15:00	Noise Exemption
5	Engineering	Queen's Athletic & Recreation Centre	Wednesday Welcome	Incoming students are welcomed to Queen's University by faculty speakers, then introduced to their orientation leaders.	9:00-15:00	Noise Exemption Road Closure Request <i>(See Appendix B)</i>

				<i>Amplified noise with music and speech through speakers, and cheering.</i>		
6	Health Sciences	Nixon Field	HECercise	Orientation groups will rotate through stations engaging in various team building activities. <i>Amplified music and speech through speakers.</i>	11:30-16:30	Noise Exemption
7	Nursing	Summerhill Circle & East Summerhill	Bonding at Summerhill and Year Dance Reveal	Orientation leaders will facilitate introductions and ice breakers amongst their Orientation group. <i>Amplified music and speech through speakers.</i>	13:00-18:00	Noise Exemption
8	Engineering	Agnes Benidickson Field	EngCutz & What is Your Faculty	Orientation groups will move through 8 rotations to be introduced to the resources provided by Engineering and engage in some Faculty traditions. <i>Amplified noise with music and speech through speakers, and cheering.</i>	14:00-21:40	Noise Exemption
9	Arts & Science	Tindall Field, Tindall Field Parking Lot	Carnival	Carnival-style event where Orientation Groups can socialize with their peers while engaging in various group challenges and activities. <i>Amplified noise with music and speech through speakers, cheering, and chanting.</i>	14:00-23:00	Noise Exemption

10	Commerce	Goodes Hall Front Lawn East	Emerging	Incoming students will receive a welcome from Orientation leaders and executives and mingle. <i>Amplified noise with cheering and chanting.</i>	15:45-17:30	Noise Exemption
11	Computing	Nixon Field	Human Bingo	Incoming students will participate in team-building games. <i>Amplified noise with music and speech through speakers, and cheering.</i>	18:00-21:00	Noise Exemption
12	Health Sciences	City Park Cricket Field <i>(Requested)</i>	Glow Bash	Groups will engage in various team-building activities with a glow-in-the-dark theme. <i>Amplified noise with music, speech, through speakers and cheering.</i>	18:00-22:00	Noise Exemption Space Request
13	Commerce	Goodes Hall back parking lot	Glow at Goodes	This event provides students with a fun and interactive space to celebrate and connect. <i>Amplified noise with music, speech, through speakers and cheering.</i>	19:00-22:00	Noise Exemption
Monday, September 7, 2026						
14	Engineering	Agnes Benidickson Field & City Park Picnic Area <i>(Requested)</i>	ThunderMugz	Incoming students will rotate through four stations, participating in team-building games. <i>Amplified noise with music and speech through speakers, and cheering.</i>	7:00-19:00	Noise Exemption Space Request
15	Arts & Science	1745 Woodbine Road	Robinson's Farm	This event provides students with a fun and interactive obstacle course with stations. <i>Amplified noise with music, speech, through speakers and cheering.</i>	4:00-20:00	Noise Exemption

16	Commerce	Victoria Park <i>(Requested)</i>	Breakfast, Coverall Painting and Cheer Off	Orientation Groups will be served breakfast and will mingle with each other. Incoming Students will paint their coveralls and participate in a cheer-off between Orientation groups. <i>Amplified noise with music and speech through speakers, and cheering.</i>	8:00-13:15	Noise Exemption Space Request
17	Engineering	The walkway beside the Tindall Field Parking Lot and behind Victoria Hall	Eng Day	This event includes a club fair with numerous booths and club representatives, as well as a barbeque. <i>Amplified noise speech, through speakers and cheering.</i>	15:15-19:15	Noise Exemption
18	Nursing	Summerhill Circle & East Summerhill	Nursing 101	Through a scavenger-hunt, incoming students will be introduced to Nursing academics and supports within the nursing community. <i>Amplified noise with music, speech, through speakers and cheering.</i>	17:30-21:30	Noise Exemption
19	Computing	Tindall Field	Silicon Valley	Incoming students will receive a welcome from Orientation leaders and executives and mingle. <i>Amplified noise with cheering and chanting.</i>	18:00-22:30	Noise Exemption
Friday, September 11, 2026						
20	Student Affairs	Richardson Stadium	Friday Night Soccer Game	All student soccer game.	16:00-22:00	<i>FYI only - included in the A&R Noise Exemption Requests</i>
Saturday, September 12, 2026						



21	Arts & Science	The length of University Ave. from Union St. to Stuart St.	Sidewalk Sale	Various local organizations and businesses from Queen's and Kingston community set up booths to promote their mission, service(s), and/or product(s). <i>Amplified noise through walking traffic and some music.</i>	5:30-19:30	Noise Exemption Road Closure Request <i>(See Appendix B)</i>
22	Concurrent Education	Agnes Benidickson Field	Coverall Painting	Incoming Students will paint their coveralls. <i>Amplified noise with music and speech through speakers.</i>	8:30-15:30	Noise Exemption
23	Engineering	City Park Picnic Area <i>(Requested)</i>	Highland Games	Orientation groups will engage in rotations of team building activities to prepare for the Grease Pole Climb. <i>Amplified noise with music and speech through speakers, and cheering.</i>	9:00-19:45	Noise Exemption Space Request
24	Computing	Tindall Field	CompSci Cup	Orientation groups will rotate through stations engaging in various team building activities. <i>Amplified music and speech through speakers.</i>	10:00-15:10	Noise Exemption
25	Arts & Science	City Park Mini Soccer Field <i>(Requested)</i>	Coverall Painting	Incoming students will paint their coveralls. <i>Amplified noise with music and speech through speakers, and cheering</i>	11:30-21:30	Noise Exemption Space Request
26	Kinesiology	Summerhill Circle	Coverall Painting	Incoming Students will paint their coveralls. <i>Amplified noise with music and speech through speakers.</i>	15:00-18:15	Noise Exemption



27	Arts & Science	Agnes-Benidickson Field	Semi-Formal	Incoming students will be invited to participate in a semi-formal event and enjoy dinner. <i>Amplified noise with music through speakers.</i>	15:00-1:45	Noise Exemption
Sunday, September 13, 2026						
28	Engineering	Cummins Road	Grease Pole Climb	Annual event in the Engineering Faculty where incoming students work together to retrieve a traditional Queen's bonnet (Tam) from the top of a pole. <i>Amplified noise with music and speech through speakers, and cheering. On private property</i>	6:00-12:30	Noise Exemption Road Closure Request <i>(See Appendix B)</i>
29	Arts & Science	City Park Picnic Area <i>(Requested)</i>	Queen's in the Park	Orientation groups will engage with various Queen's clubs and organizations. <i>Amplified noise with music and speech through speakers, and chatter.</i>	6:00-15:00	Noise Exemption Space Request
30	Arts & Science	Nixon Field; Queen's University, Professors' Walk	First Year Olympics	Orientation Groups will rotate through four stations engaging in various team building activities. <i>Amplified noise with music and speech through speakers, and cheering.</i>	9:00-18:00	Noise Exemption
31	Computing	Agnes Benidickson Field	Coverall Painting	Incoming Students will paint their coveralls. <i>Amplified noise with music and speech through speakers.</i>	10:30-14:00	Noise Exemption
32	Nursing	City Park Picnic Area <i>(Requested)</i>	Tournament of the Century and Tamming	Incoming students engage in rotations of team building activities. Incoming Students	11:00-19:00	Noise Exemption

				will participate in Queen's Nursing traditions and receive their Tam. <i>Amplified noise with music and speech through speakers, and cheering.</i>		Space Request
33	Arts & Science	Miller Hall Parking Lot	ArtSci Cup Reveal	Orientation groups will engage in a reveal of whether Arts or Science collected the most points through participation during Orientation. <i>Amplified music with music and speech through speakers, and cheering.</i>	12:30-19:00	Noise Exemption
34	Health Sciences	Agnes Benidickson Field	Coverall Painting	Incoming Students will paint their coveralls. <i>Amplified noise with music and speech through speakers.</i>	13:00-17:30	Noise Exemption
35	Engineering	Fifth Field Company Lane, between Union Street and Founders Row	Banquet	Incoming students will partake in an end-of-week banquet. <i>Amplified noise with music and speech through speakers.</i>	14:00-20:00	Noise Exemption
36	Kinesiology	Tindall Field	Final Stretch: GraduatKIN Award Deliberation	Tamming ceremony for students, where they will receive their Tam (hat) and other medals. <i>Amplified noise with music through speakers & speech through speakers.</i>	14:50-17:15	Noise Exemption
37	Commerce	Summerhill	COMM Down	Tamming ceremony for students, where they will receive their Tam (hat) and sing the Oil Thigh <i>Amplified noise with music through speakers & speech through speakers.</i>	15:15-17:15	Noise Exemption

Requests to the City

Queen’s University’s use of City Spaces (City Park and Victoria Park) is approved in advance by the Special Events Team. The Student Experience Office and Alma Mater Society collaborate on an ongoing basis throughout the year, beginning immediately after the conclusion of the orientation cycle, to identify areas for growth for the following year. Use of City Spaces is reflected in the table below. Events not occurring on campus or in city spaces are excluded.

Fall Orientation activities include several annual on and off-campus events that require noise bylaw exemptions to allow the use of amplified voice and music. This section lists events, by calendar date, that make up our exemption request. To accommodate these events, Queen’s requests an exemption from the Noise Control Bylaw to permit the use of amplified voice and music:

- For the area of Queen’s University Main Campus (bounded by Union Street, Barrie Street, Stuart Street, and Albert Street) between the hours of 9:00 AM to 11:00 PM on Friday, September 4th through Monday, September 7th, 2026, and Saturday, September 12th through Sunday, September 13th, 2026.
- For the area of Queen’s University West Campus North of Duncan McArthur Hall (bounded by Sir John A. Macdonald Boulevard, Stadium Lane, and Johnson Street) between the hours of 9:00 AM to 11:00 PM on Friday, September 4th through Monday, September 7th, 2026, and Friday, September 11th through Sunday, September 13th, 2026.
- For areas surrounding City Parks as approved by the City of Kingston Special Events team.

Table 2: On-Campus Noise Bylaw Exemption Requests

#	Group	Location	Event Name	Event Description	Time	Request(s) to City
Friday September 4, 2026						
1	Student Affairs (Residence Life & Services)	Victoria Hall, Albert St (Queen’s Cres to King St), Stuart St (University Ave to Albert St), Richardson Stadium	Residence Move-In	First-year incoming students will be moving into Residence throughout the day. Amplified music through speakers outside residence buildings and outside Richardson Stadium	17:00-20:00	Noise Exemption
Saturday, September 5, 2026						
2	Student Affairs (Residence Life & Services)	Victoria Hall, Albert St (Queen’s Cres to King St), Stuart St (University Ave to Albert St), Richardson Stadium	Residence Move-In	First-year incoming students will be moving into Residence throughout the day. <i>Amplified music through speakers outside residence buildings and outside Richardson Stadium</i>	8:00-17:00	Noise Exemption

3	Student Affairs (SEO)	Tindall Field, Tindall Field Parking Lot, Mackintosh-Corry Hall	Welcome Home Night	3-4 activities happening on the field with booths on around perimeter. Students can participate in trivia, athletics, crafts, watch a movie, etc. <i>Amplified music through speakers.</i>	16:30-23:30	Noise Exemption
Sunday, September 6, 2026						
4	Student Affairs (SEO)	Tindall Field Parking Lot to Richardson Stadium along Union Street	Tricolour Parade and Stadium Welcome	Incoming students & Orientation leaders led by Queen's Band will travel from Tindall Parking Lot to Richardson Stadium. <i>Amplified music along Union Street by Queen's Bands.</i> <i>Amplified noise through crowd chatter and cheers.</i> <i>Amplified noise with speeches and music inside Richardson Stadium</i>	8:30-15:00	Noise Exemption
5	Engineering	Queen's Athletic & Recreation Centre	Wednesday Welcome	Incoming students are welcomed to Queen's University by faculty speakers, then introduced to their orientation leaders. <i>Amplified noise with music and speech through speakers, and cheering.</i>	9:00-15:00	Noise Exemption Road Closure Request <i>(See Appendix B)</i>
6	Health Sciences	Nixon Field	HECercise	Orientation groups will rotate through stations engaging in various team building activities. <i>Amplified music and speech through speakers.</i>	11:30-16:30	Noise Exemption
7	Nursing	Summerhill Circle & East Summerhill	Bonding at Summerhill and Year Dance Reveal	Orientation leaders will facilitate introductions and ice breakers amongst their Orientation group.	13:00-18:00	Noise Exemption

				<i>Amplified music and speech through speakers.</i>		
8	Engineering	Agnes Benidickson Field	EngCutz & What is Your Faculty	Orientation groups will move through 8 rotations to be introduced to the resources provided by Engineering and engage in some Faculty traditions. <i>Amplified noise with music and speech through speakers, and cheering.</i>	14:00-21:40	Noise Exemption
9	Arts & Science	Tindall Field, Tindall Field Parking Lot	Carnival	Carnival-style event where Orientation Groups can socialize with their peers while engaging in various group challenges and activities. <i>Amplified noise with music and speech through speakers, cheering, and chanting.</i>	14:00-23:00	Noise Exemption
10	Commerce	Goodes Hall Front Lawn East	Emerging	Incoming students will receive a welcome from Orientation leaders and executives and mingle. <i>Amplified noise with cheering and chanting.</i>	15:45-17:30	Noise Exemption
11	Computing	Nixon Field	Human Bingo	Incoming students will participate in team-building games. <i>Amplified noise with music and speech through speakers, and cheering.</i>	18:00-21:00	Noise Exemption
12	Commerce	Goodes Hall back parking lot	Glow at Goodes	This event provides students with a fun and interactive space to celebrate and connect. <i>Amplified noise with music, speech, through speakers and cheering.</i>	19:00-22:00	Noise Exemption
Monday, September 7, 2026						
13	Engineering	Agnes Benidickson Field & City Park Picnic Area <i>(included on both)</i>	ThunderMugz	Incoming students will rotate through four stations, participating in team-building games.	7:00-19:00	Noise Exemption Space Request

				<i>Amplified noise with music and speech through speakers, and cheering.</i>		
14	Arts & Science	1745 Woodbine Road	Robinson's Farm	This event provides students with a fun and interactive obstacle course with stations. <i>Amplified noise with music, speech, through speakers and cheering.</i>	4:00-20:00	Noise Exemption
15	Engineering	The walkway beside the Tindall Field Parking Lot and behind Victoria Hall	Eng Day	This event includes a club fair with numerous booths and club representatives, as well as a barbeque. <i>Amplified noise speech, through speakers and cheering.</i>	15:15-19:15	Noise Exemption
16	Nursing	Summerhill Circle & East Summerhill	Nursing 101	Through a scavenger-hunt, incoming students will be introduced to Nursing academics and supports within the nursing community. <i>Amplified noise with music, speech, through speakers and cheering.</i>	17:30-21:30	Noise Exemption
17	Computing	Tindall Field	Silicon Valley	Incoming students will receive a welcome from Orientation leaders and executives and mingle. <i>Amplified noise with cheering and chanting.</i>	18:00-22:30	Noise Exemption
Friday, September 11, 2026						
18	Student Affairs	Richardson Stadium	Friday Night Soccer Game	All student soccer game.	16:00-22:00	<i>FYI only - included in the A&R Noise Exemption Requests</i>
Saturday, September 12, 2026						
19	Arts & Science	The length of University Ave. from Union St. to Stuart St.	Sidewalk Sale	Various local organizations and businesses from Queen's and Kingston community set up booths to promote their mission, service(s), and/or product(s).	5:30-19:30	Noise Exemption Road Closure Request <i>(See Appendix B)</i>

				<i>Amplified noise through walking traffic and some music.</i>		
20	Concurrent Education	Agnes Benidickson Field	Coverall Painting	Incoming Students will paint their coveralls. <i>Amplified noise with music and speech through speakers.</i>	8:30-15:30	Noise Exemption
21	Computing	Tindall Field	Compsci Cup	Orientation groups will rotate through stations engaging in various team building activities. <i>Amplified music and speech through speakers.</i>	10:00-15:10	Noise Exemption
22	Kinesiology	Summerhill Circle	Coverall Painting	Incoming Students will paint their coveralls. <i>Amplified noise with music and speech through speakers.</i>	15:00-18:15	Noise Exemption
23	Arts & Science	Agnes-Benidickson Field	Semi-Formal	Incoming students will be invited to participate in a semi-formal event and enjoy dinner. <i>Amplified noise with music through speakers.</i>	15:00-1:45	Noise Exemption
Sunday, September 13, 2026						
24	Engineering	Cummins Road	Grease Pole Climb	Annual event in the Engineering Faculty where incoming students work together to retrieve a traditional Queen's bonnet (Tam) from the top of a pole. <i>Amplified noise with music and speech through speakers, and cheering. On private property</i>	6:00-12:30	Noise Exemption Road Closure Request <i>(See Appendix B)</i>
25	Arts & Science	Nixon Field; Queen's University, Professors' Walk	First Year Olympics	Orientation Groups will rotate through four stations engaging in various team building activities. <i>Amplified noise with music and speech through speakers, and cheering.</i>	9:00-18:00	Noise Exemption

Exhibit B
Report Number 26-113

26	Computing	Agnes Benidickson Field	Coverall Painting	Incoming Students will paint their coveralls. <i>Amplified noise with music and speech through speakers.</i>	10:30-14:00	Noise Exemption
27	Arts & Science	Miller Hall Parking Lot	ArtSci Cup Reveal	Orientation groups will engage in a reveal of whether Arts or Science collected the most points through participation during Orientation. <i>Amplified music with music and speech through speakers, and cheering.</i>	12:30-19:00	Noise Exemption
28	Health Sciences	Agnes Benidickson Field	Coverall Painting	Incoming Students will paint their coveralls. <i>Amplified noise with music and speech through speakers.</i>	13:00-17:30	Noise Exemption
29	Engineering	Fifth Field Company Lane, between Union Street and Founders Row	Banquet	Incoming students will partake in an end-of-week banquet. <i>Amplified noise with music and speech through speakers.</i>	14:00-20:00	Noise Exemption
30	Kinesiology	Tindall Field	Final Stretch: GraduatKIN Award Deliberation	Tamming ceremony for students, where they will receive their Tam (hat) and other medals. <i>Amplified noise with music through speakers & speech through speakers.</i>	14:50-17:15	Noise Exemption
31	Commerce	Summerhill	COMM Down	Tamming ceremony for students, where they will receive their Tam (hat) and sing the Oil Thigh <i>Amplified noise with music through speakers & speech through speakers.</i>	15:15-17:15	Noise Exemption

Table 3: City Space Requests

We have reduced our requests for City spaces to 7 orientation events, from 11 events in 2025. All events undergo an event sanctioning process to ensure that the appropriate risk mitigation strategies are in place for the safety of all attendees. Depending on the event, there may be Queen's First Aid responders or Queen's Student Constables present to assist in the event of an emergency. There will be amplified noise at all events requested for the city space. All space requests, with further details, have been communicated to the City of Kingston Special Events department.

#	Group	Location	Event Name	Event Description	Time	Request(s) to City
Sunday, September 6, 2026						
1	Health Sciences	City Park Cricket Field <i>(Requested)</i>	Glow Bash	Groups will engage in various team-building activities with a glow-in-the-dark theme. <i>Amplified noise with music, speech, through speakers and cheering.</i>	18:00-22:00	Noise Exemption Space Request
Monday, September 7, 2026						
13*	Engineering	Agnes Benidickson Field & City Park Picnic Area <i>(Requested)</i> <i>(*included on both)</i>	ThunderMugz	Incoming students will rotate through four stations, participating in team-building games. <i>Amplified noise with music and speech through speakers, and cheering.</i>	7:00-19:00	Noise Exemption Space Request
3	Commerce	Victoria Park <i>(Requested)</i>	Breakfast, Coverall Painting and Cheer Off	Orientation Groups will be served breakfast and will mingle with each other. Incoming Students will paint their coveralls and participate in a cheer-off between Orientation groups. <i>Amplified noise with music and speech through speakers, and cheering.</i>	8:00-13:15	Noise Exemption Space Request

Saturday, September 12, 2026

4	Engineering	City Park Picnic Area <i>(Requested)</i>	Highland Games	Orientation groups will engage in rotations of team building activities to prepare for the Grease Pole Climb. <i>Amplified noise with music and speech through speakers, and cheering.</i>	9:00-19:45	Noise Exemption Space Request
5	Arts & Science	City Park Mini Soccer Field <i>(Requested)</i>	Coverall Painting	Incoming students will paint their coveralls. <i>Amplified noise with music and speech through speakers, and cheering</i>	11:30-21:30	Noise Exemption Space Request

Sunday, September 13, 2026

6	Arts & Science	City Park Picnic Area <i>(Requested)</i>	Queen's in the Park	Orientation groups will engage with various Queen's clubs and organizations. <i>Amplified noise with music and speech through speakers, and chatter.</i>	6:00-15:00	Noise Exemption Space Request
7	Nursing	City Park Picnic Area <i>(Requested)</i>	Tournament of the Century and Tamming	Incoming students engage in rotations of team building activities. Incoming Students will participate in Queen's Nursing traditions and receive their Tam. <i>Amplified noise with music and speech through speakers, and cheering.</i>	11:00-19:00	Noise Exemption Space Request

Public Notice: Temporary Noise Exemption Request – Queen’s University Fall Orientation Week 2026

The City of Kingston is seeking public feedback on a request for temporary exemptions to the City’s Noise Control By-Law (By-Law 2004-52) submitted by Queen’s University and the Alma Mater Society. The exemptions relate to Fall Orientation Week and Residence Move-In activities planned from **Sept. 4 to Sept. 13, 2026**.

The request includes the use of amplified sound (e.g., music, microphones, cheering) for events held on campus and in City parks and public spaces, as well as road closures and traffic control measures associated with move-in and event safety.

Key Dates and Locations:

- **Sept. 4 – 7 & Sept. 11 – 13:** On-campus events using amplified sound from **9 a.m. to 11 p.m.**
- **September 4 – 5:** Residence Move-In activities, including staggered arrivals, traffic management, and limited amplified sound near residence buildings
- **Various dates:** Events on City-owned property (e.g., City Park, Victoria Park) with amplified sound, subject to City approval

Events include:

- Welcome activities, team-building games, and outdoor ceremonies
- Musical performances and social events
- Traditional student events such as parades, tamming ceremonies, and the Grease Pole Climb

Queen’s University will have event contacts available during activities, and Bylaw Enforcement and Kingston Police will be informed of event schedules to respond to any issues.

We invite the public to submit any comments or concerns regarding this noise exemption request.

Please direct your feedback to
Steve Mothersell,
Manager, Enforcement Services
(SMothersell@CityofKingston.ca),
by Thursday, May 19, 2026 at 12 p.m.



Public Comment

I saw your post in the Whig yesterday and felt the need to write.

Why are you required to seek public input on this request every year? (Assumption yes, but I've seen this post for 25 years now!)

It just seems outrageous to me that with Queen's being such a foundation of our community, coupled with the fact that orientation is held annually, that you should have to spend precious resources to find out if its OK from the community!

Queen's should have a standing exemption that allows them to welcome the first year students into our community with heart and allow them to exhibit the community building behaviour one would expect of first years. It would demonstrate our respect for them and their role in our community – in the same way we expect the students to respect the city and its inhabitants.

It is a true partnership! Partners shouldn't have to ask for permission each year.

Besides, I live right in the heart of orientation and have noted that every year it seems to become quieter and less energized. I hope that downward trajectory reverses! Welcome students!

Public Comment

I have but one simple request to make: Does the City not believe it is time it require Queen's to include in this application for the use of many City properties a request for the closure of Aberdeen Street for its related events and to assume responsibility for that closure as well? Please do this.