

Richardson Senior Center

Programs, Services & Community Impact

March 26, 2026

Presented to the Community Inclusion & Engagement Commission



Recreation Division

Where the Senior Center fits within the broader Recreation team



Heights
Recreation Center



Huffhines
Recreation Center



**Senior
Center**



Therapeutic
Recreation



Summer
Day Camps



Recreation Special
Events & Marketing

WHO WE SERVE

Our Community

Open to all Richardson residents and non-residents

50+

Age Eligibility

Open to adults 50 and older

\$5 - \$25

Annual Resident Memberships

As low as \$5/yr for residents 80+

6

Days a Week

Mon–Thur 8am–8pm • Fri 8am–4pm
Sat 8am–1pm

MEMBERSHIP FEES AT A GLANCE

Age Group	Resident Fee/Year	Non-Resident Fee/Year
Ages 50–54	\$25	\$50
Ages 55–79	\$15	\$30
Ages 80+	\$5	\$10

RECREATION & SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT

Something for everyone — daily opportunities to play, connect, and belong.

 **RICHARDSON SENIOR GOLF LEAGUE**
Organized competitive play at Sherrill Park Golf Course

GAMES & MIND ACTIVITIES

- Mah Jongg
- Duplicate Bridge
- Cribbage
- Canasta
- "42"
- Bingo
- Chess Club 50+
- Party Bridge
- Bunco
- Musical Bingo
- Thinking Things
- Pool Tournaments

ARTS, MUSIC & CREATIVE

- Ceramics
- Watercolor
- Oil Painting
- Language Classes
- Needlework
- Tatting
- Crochet
- Ukulele

A Cornerstone of the Senior Center Experience

DANCE CLASSES

- Line Dance
- Ballroom Dance Class
- ADD Plus Square Dance
- Ballet
- Zumba Gold / Zumba Toning
- Tap Dancing

FRIDAY / SATURDAY NIGHT DANCE

Fri night dances: \$7, Sat Night Dances: \$5

- Friday Nights (1st and 3rd) Square Dance
- Square Dancing
- Ballroom & Variety
- Country/Western bands

One of the most beloved programs at the Senior Center — it brings people together every week.



The Saturday Night Dance brings people together across all backgrounds — every single week.

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Active, Healthy Living at Every Age

FITNESS CLASSES

Yoga

Strength Training

Tai Chi

Fall Prevention

Aerobic Exercise

Senior Boxing

Drum Cardio

Aikido

Morning Renewal

Just Pilates

FITNESS CENTER & WELLNESS

- Treadmills & Cardio Equipment
- Adaptive Motion Trainers
- Full Body Strength Training
- Personal Trainer On-Site
- Chair Massage (bi-monthly)
- Dedicated Billiards Room

💡 SIP TALKS — Senior Informational Presentations

Free expert-led talks on health, finance, safety & wellness — open to all members

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Where Friendships Are Made

The Senior Center is more than programs — it's where people belong

SIGNATURE COMMUNITY EVENTS



Thanksgiving Lunch

CMO, City Council & City staff serve our members — a beloved annual tradition



Vegas Night

A favorite social event — entertainment, fun, and community spirit



Senior Prom

An annual celebration where members dress up and dance the night away



Senior Trips

Day trips and extended travel — New York, Islands of New England, and more



Entertainment Series

King of Swing, Concert Bands, Class Act Tap, & more

THE POWER OF CONNECTION

Loneliness among older adults is a public health crisis. The Senior Center is Richardson's most direct answer to that challenge.

- Members who met at Bridge class become each other's emergency contacts
- Regulars at Saturday Night Dance have formed lasting friend groups that meet beyond the Center
- Friendship & Conversation Corner specifically targets combating loneliness
- "Let's Talk Military" gives veterans a space for camaraderie and shared experience
- The Robin's Nest Craft Store — run by and for members — creates purpose and pride

SUPPORT SERVICES

Removing Barriers, Expanding Access

Designed so every resident can participate fully



TRANSPORTATION SERVICE

- Eligibility:** Residents 50+ within Richardson city limits
- Cost:** \$.50 one-way | \$1.00 round trip
- Days:** Monday – Thursday
- Hours:** 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
- Reserve:** Call 972-744-7805
- Medical:** Reserve from 3 p.m. Thurs of prior week
- General:** Reserve from 8:30 a.m. Fri of prior week



EXTRAS SERVICES

- FREE for members 50 and older**
- Notary Service: 2nd Thursday • 9–11 a.m. • Sponsored by Visiting Angels
- Blood Pressure Checks
- Graff Foot and Wound Care Mobile Clinic



AFFORDABLE CAFÉ LUNCH

- Lunch available on-site at affordable prices
- Members enjoy a hot meal without leaving the building — reducing isolation and extending their time at the Center

OUR FACILITY

A Welcoming Home for the Richardson Community

 820 W. Arapaho Road, Richardson, TX 75080 • Mon–Thu 8am–8pm & Fri: 8am–4pm • Saturday: 8am–1pm • 972-744-7800

142 Parking Spaces

32 accessible + 110 standard
covered drop-off at entrance

Multi-Purpose Spaces

Large activity room with
movable dividing wall

Dance Studio

Mirror wall and dance bar for
daily dance and fitness classes

Café & Dining

Affordable hot lunch daily
from on-site kitchen

Outdoor Courtyard

Patio area for outdoor
programming & relaxation

Fitness Center

Full cardio & strength suite
plus billiards room

Designed to Serve All Members of Our Community

The Senior Center is designed to serve all members of our diverse community, removing barriers to participation at every level.

ACCESS & EQUITY

- Tiered membership fees based on age
- ADA-compliant facility & parking
- Door-to-door transportation for 50+
- Low-cost programming (Fitness starting at \$5)
- Free services (notary, health screenings)
- Affordable café lunch on-site
- Welcoming to residents & non-residents

DIVERSE PROGRAMMING

Games, fitness, arts, dance, education — something for every background, every ability, every interest.

LOW BARRIER ENTRY

Annual memberships start at just \$5 for residents 80+, with sliding scale by age.

WRAPAROUND SUPPORT

Transportation, notary, café, chair massage, and health services address the whole person.

Thank You For Your Support

The Richardson Senior Center is more than a place —
it's a community.



ADDRESS

820 W. Arapaho Rd
Richardson, TX 75080



PHONE

972-744-7800



HOURS

Mon–Thur: 8am–8pm
Fri: 8am–4pm
Sat: 8am–1pm



EMAIL

AskRichardsonSeniorCenter
@cor.gov



CULTURE IN THE CORE

Cultural Arts Commission

March 12, 2026



→ **CITY COUNCIL STRATEGIC GOAL**

Continue to explore unique opportunities to attract and retain residents and all stakeholders

→ **CITY COUNCIL TACTIC**

Explore strategies to maximize the impact of our centers, facilities and events

Overview

- Background
- Event Overview
- Vendor Selection
- Communications Strategy
- Feedback
- Next Steps



BACKGROUND

- Created in 2022
- Free, family friendly event
- Celebrate Richardson's cultural diversity
- Showcase cultural traditions, performances, food, and art
- Activate the CORE District

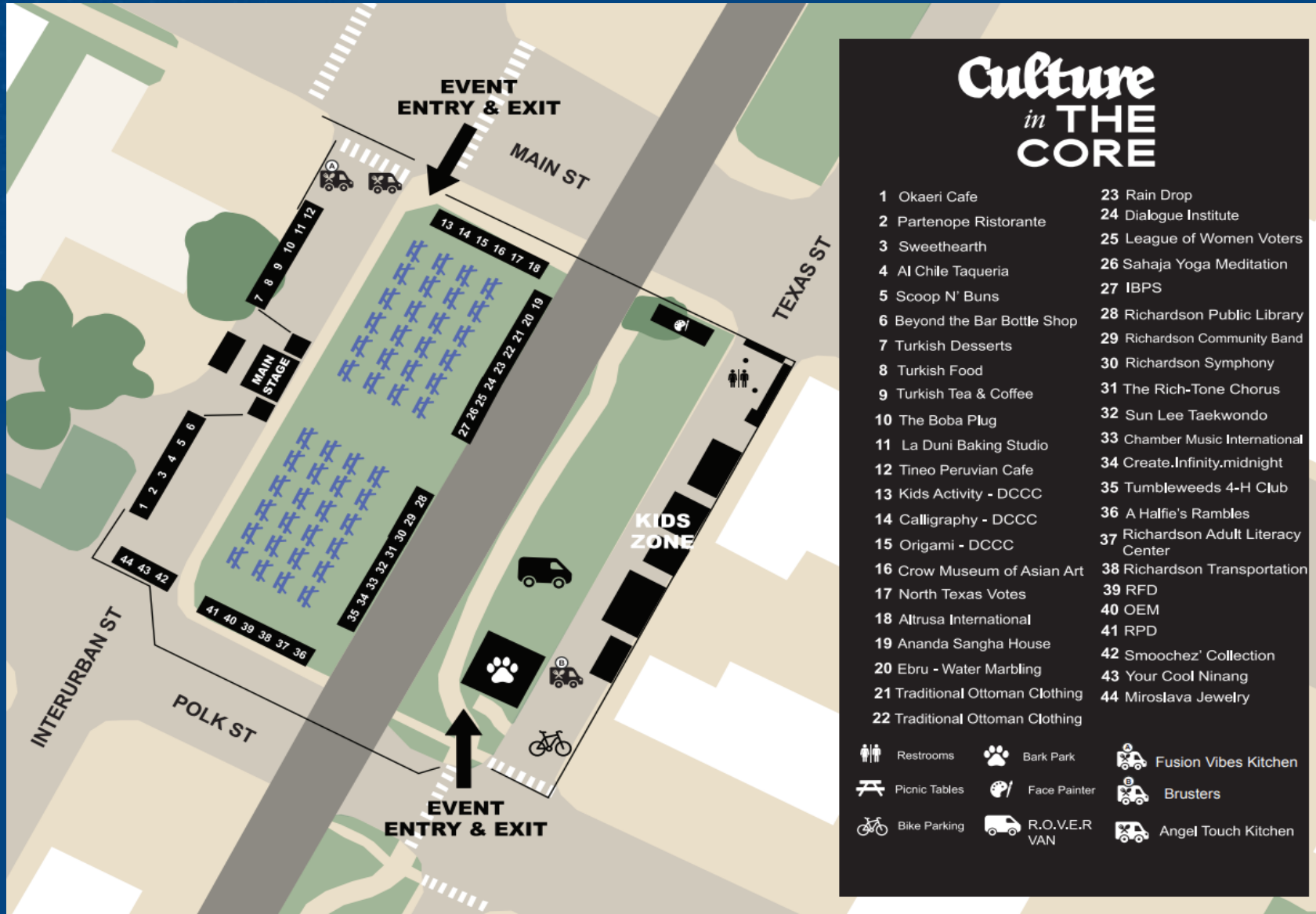


EVENT OVERVIEW

- Occurs annually
- Approximately 1,000 Attendees
- 36 Vendors/Exhibitors
 - 13 Food & Beverage
 - 7 Retailers
 - 4 Cultural Organizations
 - 5 Community Organizations
 - 4 Cultural Arts Organizations
 - 3 City Departments
- 9 Performers
- \$90,000 budget



2025 Event Layout





VENDOR SELECTION

- Application-Based Process
- Direct Outreach to Cultural Organizations to encourage participation
- Staff Review & Selection
- Limited Space Availability



COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

- Dallasites101
- North Dallas Gazette
- Mommy Poppins
- Axios Weekend Events
- Facebook
- Instagram
- NextDoor
- Week in Review
- Things to Do
- Richardson Today
- RichardsonToday.com
- City website
- CORE District website
- Light Pole Banners



FEEDBACK

- Have you attended this event?
- How is Culture in the Core currently perceived in the community?
- What would make this a “can’t-miss” event instead of a “nice-to-have”?
- What kind of vendors or exhibits should be prioritized?
- What performances would make you want to stay longer at the event?

NEXT STEPS

- Collect feedback
 - Cultural Arts Commission – March 12
 - Community Inclusion & Engagement Commission – March 26
- Review and consider feedback
- Present proposed changes to council – Summer

Proclamations / Days of Recognition

March 2026

CIEC Goals and Tactics

Tactic

- Create opportunities for proclamations to highlight Council inclusion and engagement goals.

Goal

- **Stakeholder Experience** - Our goal is for Richardson to be a community where all stakeholders feel welcomed, connected, and empowered to engage in meaningful ways.
- **Cultural/Societal Impact** – Our goal is for Richardson to celebrate our diversity and promote trust, connection, collaboration, and cross-cultural understanding.

Council's Position

- Statement on International Affairs

“The City of Richardson is a community that embraces its diversity and celebrates the heritage of people who have settled here from around the world.”

“Locally, we lead through our actions, demonstrating to the world what is attainable when harmony is embraced.”

US Constitution: Recognition

- Core principle is **government neutrality**. Public institutions must neither promote nor inhibit religion.
 - Government **may not promote religion**
 - (Establishment Clause)
 - Government may not discriminate against religion
 - (Free Exercise Clause)
- The Constitutional issue is not religious acknowledgment itself, but **religious advancement using state power or state resources**.
- **Texas Municipal League - Legal Staff**
 - The only way to ensure safety from litigation would be for cities to make sure their holiday displays are strictly secular in nature.

Current Policy: Days of Recognition

- The Communications and Engagement Department was tasked with developing a **formal calendar of observances** to enhance community engagement and recognition of various ethnic, and cultural groups.
- Staff reviewed policies, postings, and editorial calendars of several organizations, including the Federal government and its **Equal Employment Opportunity Program (EEOC)**, to produce an annual schedule.

Current Policy: Days of Recognition

- Federal Government's EEOP designates **Special Emphasis Program observances (SEP)**.
 - SEPs are recognized as an integral part of the Equal Employment Opportunity and Civil Rights Program and refer to employment-related programs that **focus special attention on groups that are absent or underrepresented in a specific occupational category or grade level** in the national workforce.
 - The program is **implemented by Presidential Proclamation, Executive Orders, and Public Law**.

Current Policy: Days of Recognition

- State of Texas **Comptroller of Public Accounts** Holiday Schedule.
 - Texas public holidays include major federal holidays and unique state-specific observances, often resulting in state office closures.
 - Key Texas-specific dates include **Texas Independence Day** (Mar 2), **San Jacinto Day** (Apr 21), and **Juneteenth** (June 19), with state agencies also observing Confederate Heroes Day (Jan 19, 2026) and LBJ Day (Aug 27).

Current Policy: Days of Recognition

Calendar of Observances

January

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

February

African American History Month

March

Women's History Month /
International

Women's Day

April

Arab American Heritage Month

May

Asian Pacific American Heritage
Month

June

Pride Month

Juneteenth

August

National Senior Citizens Day

September - October

Hispanic Heritage Month (mid-
September to mid-October)

November

National Native American Heritage
Month

December

International Day of Persons with
Disabilities

Current Policy: Days of Recognition

- Calendar does not post regarding all City or Federal holidays identified, with exception to any related facility impacts.
 - (Labor Day, President's Day)
- City posts information about events and services corresponding with holiday-related programming.
 - (Lunar New Year, Santa's Village, and annual Christmas parade)

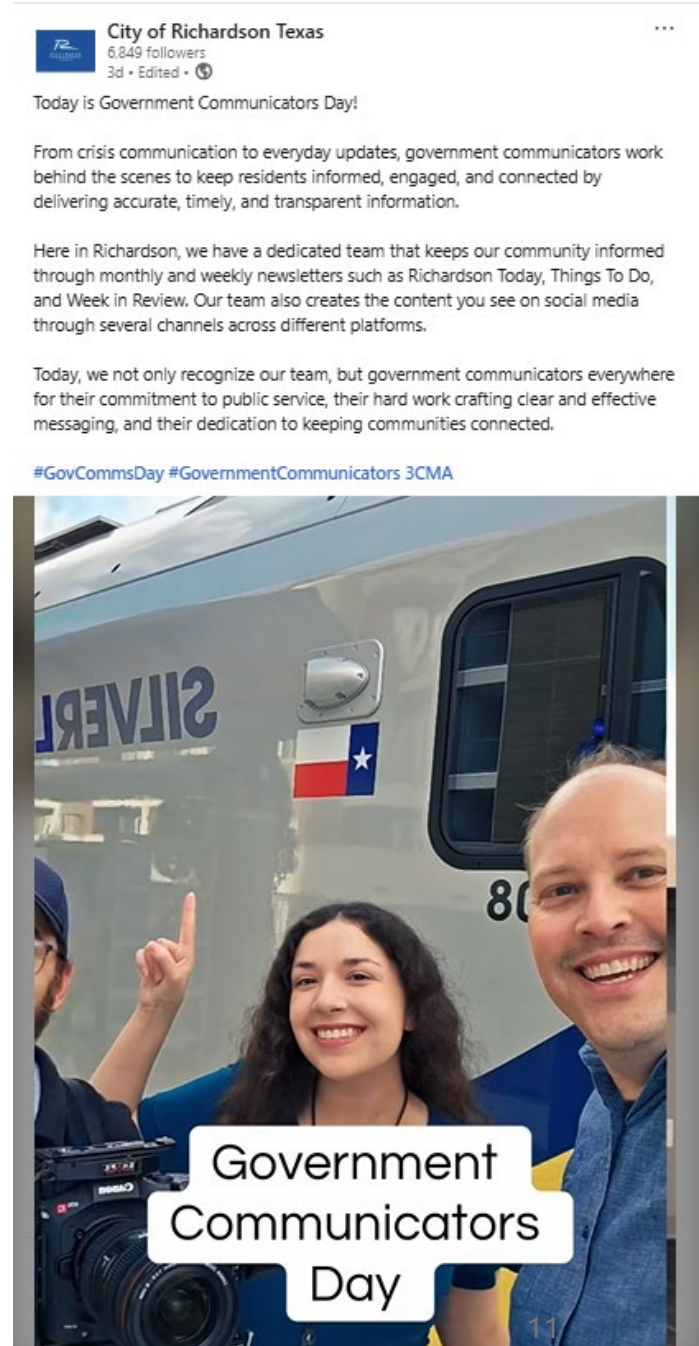
Current Policy: Days of Recognition

- Special observances are for the purpose of providing event/cultural awareness.
- City observances can include social media postings to raise awareness and encourage community involvement.



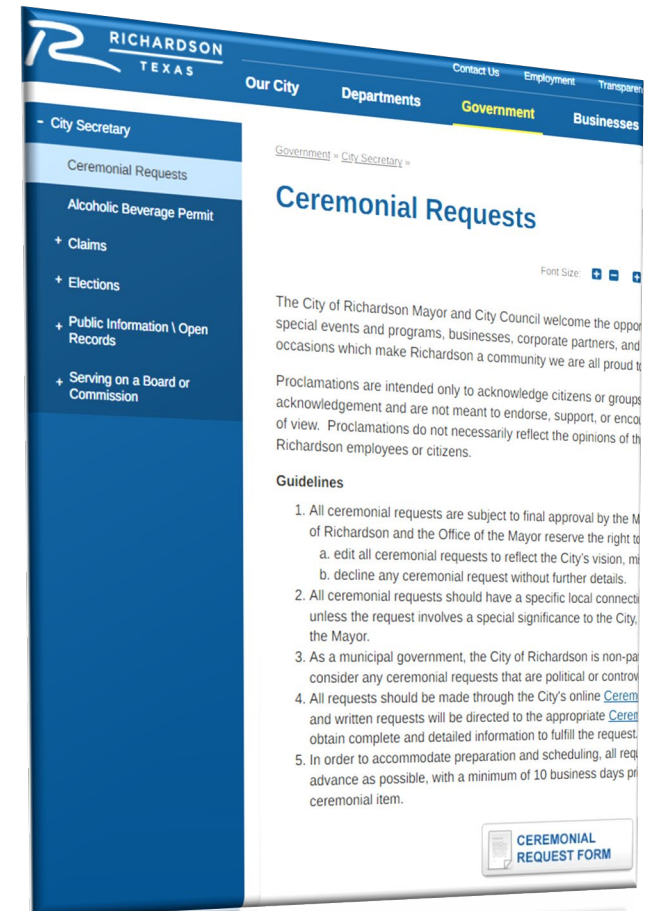
Current Policy: Days of Recognition

- Calendar does not exclude non-politically motivated or social service days or months of activism.
- Examples:
 - National Parks and Recreation Month
 - Public Services Week
 - Government Communicators Day



Ceremonial Requests - Types

- www.cor.net/government/city-secretary/ceremonial-requests
 - **Proclamations**
 - Formal declaration of a day/week/month in honor of a special event
 - **Certificates**
 - Formal document that extends special recognition
 - **Letters**
 - Programs, conferences, conventions, seminars, or other significant events when a proclamation is not appropriate
 - **Appearances/Addresses**
 - Scheduled through City Manager's Office and Council and coordinated with the Director of Communications



Ceremonial Requests - Guidelines

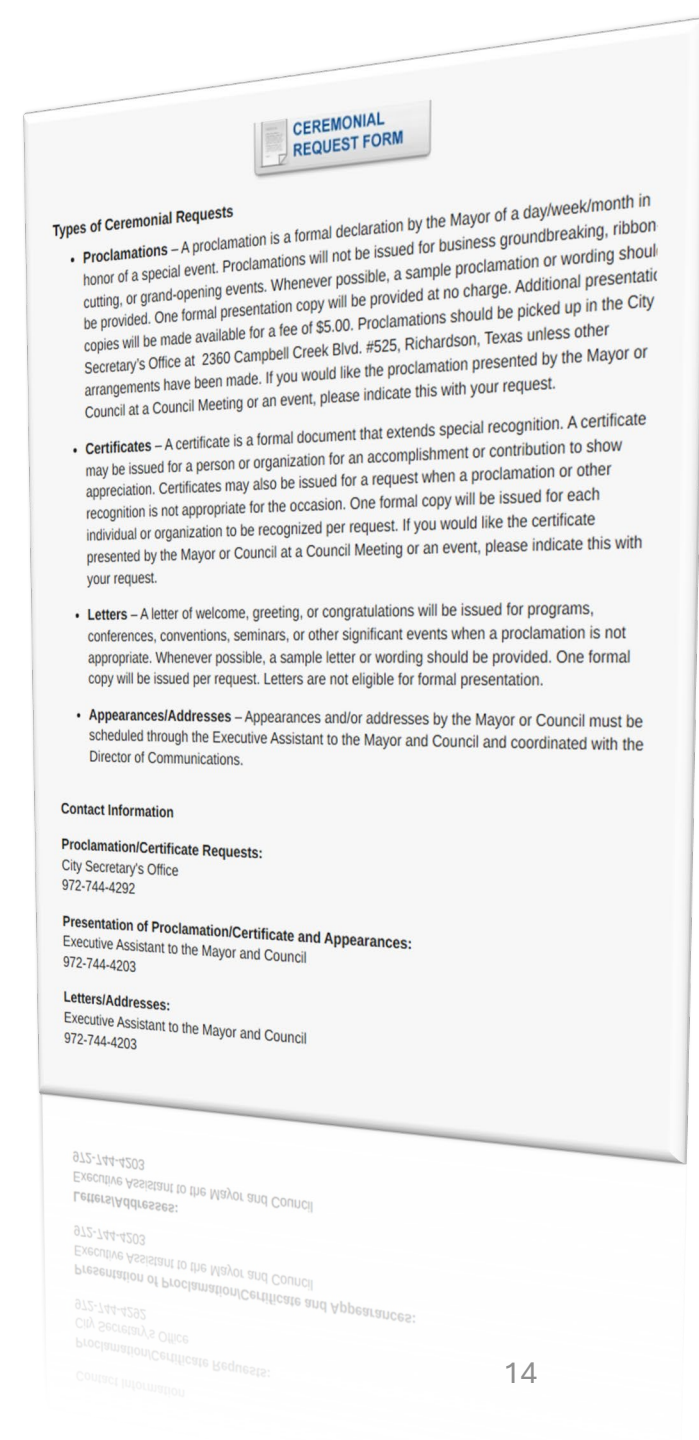
- **Have a specific local connection** with the City of Richardson unless the request involves a special significance to the City, region, or state
- Must be **non-partisan**
 - No political or controversial topics considered
- Requests made as far in advance as possible, with a **minimum of 10 business days**
- **Subject to final approval** by the Mayor and/or City Council.
 - All requests can be edited to reflect the City's vision, mission, and goals
 - Can be declined without further details

The screenshot shows a web form titled "Mayor and Council Request" under the "Government" category. The form includes a "Create Request" button and a "Request Type" dropdown menu set to "--Select One--". Below the dropdown is a reCAPTCHA "I'm not a robot" checkbox. The form also contains a "Proclamation" section with a definition: "A proclamation is a formal declaration by the Mayor of a community we are all proud to call home. One formal proclamation or wording should be provided. One formal". Other sections include "Certificate" (A certificate is a formal document that extends special recognition to international delegates, or recognition of awards.), "Letter" (A letter of welcome, greeting, or congratulations will be issued by the Mayor or Council), and "Appearance" (Appearances and/or addresses by the Mayor or Council). The form is partially obscured by a second, faded screenshot of the same form below it.

Ceremonial Requests - Proclamation Guidelines

Proclamations

- Formal declaration of a day/week/month in honor of a special event
- **Not issued for:**
 - Groundbreaking
 - Ribbon-cutting, or
 - Grand-opening
- Reflect **civic, cultural, or historical significance**
- Be **appropriate for recognition** by a municipal governing body
- **Sample wording** should be provided
- **In-person presentations** available by request



Ceremonial Requests - Opportunities for Recognition



- Civic, cultural, or historical **observances that commemorate significant events, honor individuals or groups, or celebrate shared community traditions.**
- Occasions could be generally **rooted in history, heritage, public service, or cultural identity.**
- Provide opportunities for education, reflection, and recognition of the diverse experiences that **shape the community.**

Draft Calendar Proclamations/ Observances

JANUARY

National Mentoring Month: Dedicated to the power of mentoring relationships in transforming lives.

MARCH

Women's History Month: Honors the vital contributions and historical achievements of women throughout U.S. history.

MAY

Memorial Day: Dedicated to honoring military personnel who died in service

Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month: Celebrates the rich history, diverse cultures of these communities

Mental Health Awareness Week: Focused on reducing the stigma surrounding mental health.

APRIL

Arab-American Heritage Month:

Community Service Month: A month-long focus on local service projects and civic duty.

AUGUST

National Civility Month: Encourages respectful behavior and constructive dialogue in local communities.

Richardson's Heroes Day - Honoring those who have made significant local contributions.

Nonprofit Appreciation Day - Recognizing nonprofits that support community well-being.

SEPTEMBER

Youth Leadership Week – Recognizing young local leaders.

National Voter Registration Day: A nonpartisan day of civic action to help citizens register to vote.

Family Day – Recognizing the importance of families in strengthening community ties and supporting youth development.

OCTOBER

Make A Difference Day: Recognizes days of community service in the U.S.

National Disability Employment Awareness Month: Celebrates the essential contributions of workers with disabilities and emphasizes the importance of inclusive hiring practices

NOVEMBER

Native American Heritage Month: celebrates the diverse cultures, traditions, and histories of Indigenous peoples to the United States.

Days of Recognition - Religious Recognition

- Should the City include mention of events/times of year based on religious significance?
- If so, what would be the recommendations on how to determine which religions should be included.
- If so, what would be the recommendation on how a religion is defined (what qualifies as a religion)?

Next Steps

- **Add additional recommendations**
- **Internal review**
- **CMO to review future policy**