

nYc PRIDE NEWS



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NYC REQUIRES PRIDE MARCH CUT BY NEARLY A MILE

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New York City is officially requiring that this year's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender (LGBT) Pride March be reduced in length by nearly one mile following budgetary concerns. As of this weekend, the NYC Pride Official website¹ reflects the required changes.

Although the March used to begin at 52nd St. & 5th Ave., this year, it will step off at 36th St. & 5th Ave. The result is a parade that is shorter than usual by 0.8 miles. Consequently, the judges and reviewing stand had to be relocated to a new location at 9th St. & 5th Ave. Nevertheless, the parade will still begin at noon on Sunday, June 27, 2010. Also, it will still end at Christopher St. & Greenwich St., meaning that it continues to pass the site of the Stonewall riots.

"Some people running NYC Pride are disappointed by the announcement," says Arthur Finn, Co-chair of Heritage of Pride, Inc., the non-profit organization that plans the events, "but, we understand the city's need for the change this year." Furthermore, "we aren't alone," says Finn, "as the city says it is requiring that every parade make the same sort of reduction as we did for this year."²

At the same time, "the shortened March route will not diminish the importance of the March," announced Fran Rolan, the Senior Co-chair and counterpart to Finn. "We are more excited than ever to celebrate the fortieth anniversary of the first LGBT Pride March."

The change to the length of the March route comes as a result of the city's severe budget shortfalls.

For inquiries, please contact the Media Committee at media@nycpride.org.

¹ <http://www.nycpride.org/march.html>

² See Adam Lisberg, Rocco Parascandola, & John Lauinger, *All NYC parades to be cut by 25% and restricted to 5 hours in a \$3.1M money-saving move*, N.Y. DAILY NEWS (Feb. 22, 2010), available at http://www.nydailynews.com/nv_local/2010/02/22/2010-02-22_all_nyc_parades_to_be_cut_by_25_and_restricted_to_5_hours_in_a_31m_moneysaving_m.html?print=1&page=all; Cara Buckley, *City Orders Reductions in Lengths of Parades*, N.Y. TIMES at A21 (Feb. 22, 2010), available at <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/02/23/nyregion/23parade.html?pagewanted=print>.

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Heritage of Pride is the wholly volunteer-managed, non-partisan, tax-exempt, not-for-profit corporation that organizes and produces Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Pride events in New York City to commemorate and celebrate the Stonewall Riots. These events are organized on behalf of all lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals and groups, and all others who support the struggle for the liberation of these communities. In the Spirit of Stonewall, Heritage of Pride welcomes participation of all, regardless of age, creed, gender, gender identification, HIV status, national origin, physical or mental developmental ability, race, religion or sexual orientation.

Organizers of New York City's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered Pride March, Rally, Dances & PrideFest