

CITY OF CEDAR RAPIDS DISPLAY OF FLAGS POLICY

Section 1. Statement of Purpose. The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for the flying of commemorative, special occasion, and other ceremonial flags at City-owned properties, in order to ensure that flagpoles at such properties are used only for government speech. This policy does not govern the flying of Federal, State, and/or City flags.

Section 2. Policy. It is the policy of the City of Cedar Rapids that flagpoles on City-owned properties shall only be used to display flags that express the views, values and goals of the City, as determined by the City Council. The City's flagpoles are not intended to serve as a forum for free expression by the public. The City will not display any flag based upon a request from a third party, nor will the City use its flagpoles to sponsor the expression of a third party.

Section 3. Standards.

A. Commemorative Flags. The City values diversity, equity, and inclusion. As an expression of these City values, commemorative flags selected by the City Manager or the City Manager's designee may be displayed on City-owned properties to commemorate the following occasions:

1. Black History Month
2. Women's History Month
3. Arab American Heritage Month
4. Asian American and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Heritage Month
5. Mental Health Awareness Month
6. LGBTQ+ Pride Month
7. Juneteenth
8. Hispanic Heritage Month
9. National Disability Employment Awareness Month
10. Native American Heritage Month
11. National Veterans and Military Families Month

B. Other special occasion, commemorative and ceremonial flags. In addition to the foregoing, other commemorative, special occasion, and ceremonial flags selected by the City Manager or the City Manager's designee may be displayed on City-owned properties as follows:

1. To recognize Federal or State holidays
2. To commemorate any period recognized by local proclamation
3. To accompany any official action or ceremony of the City
4. Flags of official Cedar Rapids Sister Cities may be displayed in conjunction with an event involving the Sister City.

C. Display Period. The City Manager or the City Manager's designee shall determine the appropriate time period for any display of a commemorative, special occasion, or ceremonial flag provided for herein.

D. Other Flags. Upon the request of the Mayor, a member of the City Council, or the City Manager, the City Council may approve by resolution the display on City-owned property of additional flags not addressed in this policy.