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PRESS RELEASE

Winter Park prepares for a holiday lighting weekend that will sparkle with seasonal sipping, strolling and shopping

WINTER PARK, FL, an internationally recognized, award winning city with multiple accredited agencies (October 20, 2021) This week well before sunrise, the city's Parks & Recreation and Public Works departments' elves have been busy getting the city's downtown core all gussied up for the *Hometown Holidays* season. Along Park, West New England and Orange avenues and Morse Boulevard, the community will start seeing strings and globes of lights, beautiful poinsettia trees, hanging baskets, life-size holiday greeting cards, cheerful street banners, and more festive décor. *Hometown Holidays* will also whimsically surround guests and passersby in Central Park, Martin Luther King, Jr. Park and Shady Park.



Central Park, Martin Luther King, Jr. Park and Shady Park.

"Typically, the city's downtown trees and streets start sparkling Thanksgiving weekend," explained City Manager Randy Knight, "However, this year in greater support of our local businesses, your city staff is working hard to make sure *Hometown Holidays* comes to 'light' beginning Thursday, November 18, a weekend earlier, as our retailers and restaurants come together to welcome our holiday shoppers and guests."

On Thursday, November 18, the [Winter Park Chamber of Commerce](#) will be hosting a special holiday "Sip, Shop and Stroll" from 5 to 8 p.m. Attendees can discover new merchants, check out the latest fashions, gift ideas and seasonal menu items as well as enjoy wine and hors d'oeuvres as they stroll under a canopy of twinkling globes of light.

Betsy Gardner Eckbert, President and CEO of the Winter Park Chamber of Commerce shared, "I could not be more excited about the new holiday decorations for the city of Winter Park. Our community deserves the best and brightest. Our creative partner is AOA, a globally leading themed entertainment provider headquartered right here in Winter Park. They and the city will ensure that the end result will be world class."

On Friday, November 19, the [Park Avenue District](#) will present the "Park Avenue Holiday Market" from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., in downtown Central Park West Meadow. The Market will offer something for the whole family including shopping and a special visit by Santa.

"The Park Avenue District members are excited to brighten up the holiday season with gorgeous new lights and garland on their storefronts all the way down the avenue. We know our residents and guests will experience the magic of the holidays when they visit our downtown business district," said Sarah Grafton, Park Avenue District President.

'Tis the season to access cityofwinterpark.org/events now to mark your calendars for all of the city's upcoming holiday festivities. # # #

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