

TRN-10.06 - Street Closure Permits for Community Events and Block Parties

STREET CLOSURE PERMITS FOR COMMUNITY EVENTS AND BLOCK PARTIES

Administrative Rule Adopted by Portland's Bureau of Transportation Pursuant to Rule-Making Authority PCC 3.12.010
ARB-TRN-10.06

I. Introduction

The Director of the Portland Bureau of Transportation is authorized to grant permits to close the street for block parties and community events within the public right-of-way. Permits for community events are defined as a minor community event or major community event alcohol prohibited, and a minor or major community event alcohol allowed. Fees are assessed per the current fee schedule approved by Council.

Block Party and Community event street closure permits allow closure of the public right-of-way to the extent that at least one sidewalk remains open at all times for pedestrian travel through the block. Community event permit holders shall not charge a fee to enter the event at an entry point within the public right of way.

A person will be denied a permit under PCC Section 17.44.020 C. & D. if more than 50 percent of the property owners abutting the street to be closed object to the closure or if another City Bureau objects to the closure based on concerns for neighborhood livability such as noise, disorderly conduct, litter, or public safety.

A person who is denied a permit under PCC Section 17.44.020 C. & D. may appeal the matter to City Council. The applicant shall file with the City Auditor within five days after denial a written notice of appeal. The notice shall identify the decision that is being appealed, and include the appellant's name, address, phone number, signature, and a clear statement of the specific reason(s) for the appeal. Upon receipt of such appeal, the Auditor shall then place the matter upon the Calendar of the City Council. At the hearing, the Council may affirm or modify the decision of the Director of the Bureau of Transportation as the Council may deem necessary.

II. Complaints and Opposition to Permit Issuance

Permits for street closures as defined in section III Definitions below are intended to build a sense of community. If the local neighborhood association objects to the issuance of a particular permit, they may contact their District Coalition Office or The Office of Neighborhoods to register a complaint. [Click here](#) to be directed to their website for contact information.

III. Definitions

Block Parties are events that typically close no more than one block of a local service residential street for small-scale parties such as neighborhood potlucks and barbecues. Block parties are usually held on weekends or holidays. This type of permit is initiated by local residents who live on the street being closed. The residents make application directly through their Local District Neighborhood Coalition.

Community Event Street Closures – Alcohol Prohibited prohibits use of alcohol in the public right of way during the event. There are two classifications of events: 1. Minor Neighborhood (Local) Events are larger than block parties and include more than just the residents living in the immediate vicinity of the closed street area. These events may close more than one block for neighborhood-wide events. 2. Major Citywide (Regional) Events are for large scale events that include more than the immediate neighborhood drawing from the entire city or region. Permit applications are initiated by a sponsoring organization that makes application directly to the City of Portland's Bureau of Transportation.

Community Event Street Closures – Alcohol Allowed allows use of alcohol in the public right of way during the event. There are two classifications of events: 1. Minor Neighborhood (Local) Events are larger than block parties and include more than just the residents living in the immediate vicinity of the closed street area. These events may close more than one block for neighborhood-wide events. 2. Major Citywide (Regional) Events are for large scale events that include more than the immediate neighborhood drawing from the entire city or region. Permit applications are initiated by a sponsoring organization that makes application directly to the City of Portland's Bureau of Transportation.

IV. Administrative Rule

Block Party

[Block Party applications](#) (PDF document, 177kb) are made directly through the Local District Neighborhood Coalition. To obtain an application, contact Portland's Office of Neighborhood Involvement at (503) 823-4519 to find out the name of your Local District Neighborhood Coalition.

Community Events Street Closure Permits – Alcohol Allowed in the Right of Way

[Application Link](#)

Community Event Street Closures – Alcohol Prohibited in the Right of Way

[Application Link](#)

Applications may be obtained on-line at www.portlandonline.com/transportation/communityevent.

You may also call Portland's Bureau of Transportation at (503) 823-5185 and ask to speak with the technician who issues community event street closure permits.

V. Reference

PCC Chapter 17.44.020

HISTORY

Filed for inclusion in PPD December 19, 2003.

Updated Community Event Application Packet filed in PPD October 13, 2004.

Community Event Application Packet updated in PPD by Bureau of Transportation Engineering March 13, 2008.

Administrative rule amended by Director of Portland Bureau of Transportation May 20, 2011.