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Outdoor Event Permits FAQ

What does the Mayor's Executive Order on permits do?

Great question! City permits are normally required for large events like parades, festivals, street fairs, and even for sound! The executive order limits the issuance of event permits to maximize open recreational space in New York City.

What are the specific limitations on permitted events?

Permits will not be issued for events falling within these categories:

- Event location is larger than a street block or one block of a plaza;
- Event location interferes with the City's Open Streets program;
- Event location interferes with City's Open Restaurants program;
- Event location interferes with the public's ability to use a City park for recreation or requires the use of a vehicle in the City park;
- Street fairs;
- Events with a stage or video screen that require an amplified sound permit; and
- Parades and processions with a float, vehicle, bicycle, herded or ridden animals.

What events are not covered by the Order?

The Mayor's Executive Order does not apply to certain events, including:

- Demonstrations;
- Religious events;
- Press conferences; and
- Rallies.

Does this executive order effect the state's 50-person limit on nonessential gatherings?

No. Non-essential outdoor gatherings are still capped at 50 persons. However, even events under 50 people may require a permit if they take place in a street, plaza, or public park.

If my event is eligible for a permit, what must I do?

Apply for a permit through the standard application process AND submit a safety plan.

What does the safety plan have to contain?

The safety plan must show how the applicant will:

- Reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 at the event site (including social distancing); and
- Clean the event space during and after the event.