



ELIZABETH BRATON  
Chairperson

## COMMUNITY BOARD 10

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KARYN PETERSEN  
District Manager

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To: All Residents in Community Board 10 Queens

Re: 2024 Block Parties

With the block party season approaching, the Community Board would like to remind its residents of the procedures to follow when applying for block party permits.

The City requires that applications for Block Parties be filed online. However, to avoid delays in getting your event approved, you are strongly urged to contact Community Board 10 **before** filing online in order to determine if the date you desire will be available. It will also avoid delays if you get the petition form for your block residents to sign and submit it to Community Board 10 before you file your application online.

### REQUIREMENTS:

- All applications must be filed online no less than 60 days prior to the planned event. (Example: apply by April 1 for a June 1 block party date). The online system may be accessed at: [www.nyc.gov/sapo](http://www.nyc.gov/sapo)
- The non-refundable application processing fee is \$25 (payable by credit or debit card).
- **You must submit a petition (on the form provided by CB10) signed by all residents and/or commercial establishments on the block of the event.** You must attempt to get signatures from all addresses on the block. If someone is not at home the first time you attempt to obtain a signature, we request that you try a second time, indicating the dates of your two visits to that particular address. Applicant must live on the block the event is being held on and must be present for the entire duration of the event. All petitions will be reviewed and verified. Petitions will be rejected if not representative of the entire block. At least 60% of the block must be in favor of the event and at least 80% of the block's residents must have been successfully contacted. (Example: If there are 30 homes on the block, then at least 18 must indicate support and no more than 6 homes can be left unsuccessfully contacted.) The original petition must be received by CB10 no later than 60 days prior to the date of the event.

- If you are planning to have amplified music (any type of sound system) you must obtain a sound permit from the 106 Precinct. If no sound permit is obtained no amplified music is permitted. A money order in the amount of \$45.00 is required. Cash or checks will not be accepted by the NYPD. This year, all block party sound permits issued by the precinct will be valid until 8:30 pm. (Please be advised that the precinct may place an earlier time restriction on/or deny a sound permit on a case-by-case basis. The precinct may also require an applicant to provide information identifying the owner of any sound equipment to be used.
- **Loud noise from amplified music continues to be a major Quality of Life complaint in all parts of the 106 Precinct area; therefore, there will be strict enforcement of noise regulations.**
- Please be advised that the issuance of a sound permit is NOT a license to blast music with no restriction on volume. The 106 Precinct has advised that sound permits, if issued, will be valid only to a limit of 86 decibels. (As a frame of reference, a sound level of 86 dBA is roughly equivalent to that of a lawn mower.) Also, please note that whoever applies for the sound permit, as well as the sound equipment/owner, will be responsible for the strict adherence to the music time period and decibel level and they may both be subject to receiving a summons for non-compliance. The identity of the DJ /MC/ Equipment owner may also be required.
- If you are planning to have rides of any type (even just inflatables) a certificate of liability insurance indicating the "City of New York" as the indemnified must be provided as well as a copy of the DCAWP (Dept. of Consumer Affairs/Worker Protection) certificate. These can be obtained from the ride owner/operator. Upload any required supporting documents.

**ALSO, PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:**

- Only Block Parties planned to occur between **June 1 and September 28, 2024**, will be considered for approval.
- Only 1 block party per block for the season will be approved.
- No Block Parties will be approved for Sundays (other than church-sponsored events occurring on the church block).
- The city's Street Activity Permitting Office (SAPO) does not allow rain dates.
- **NO Block party activity may continue in the roadway or curb lanes after 9 pm.**
- **All Streets must be fully open to traffic at 9 pm with all tables, chairs, etc. out of all parts of the roadway by 9 pm.** The applicant is responsible to ensure compliance and must make participants on the block aware of this requirement to reopen the street.
- **No block parties to be held on July 4th or on the Saturday of Labor Day weekend will be approved.**
- No block parties to be held on commercial streets will be approved. Other types of street events applied for involving use of stages or performance space on commercial streets will be referred to park venues. CB10 may request non-approval by SAPO of block parties or other street events for blocks on or intersecting commercial streets.

If you are planning a block party this summer, please start planning early and give yourself enough time to make your arrangements. Please be aware that in order that on any given date block parties are not all clustered in close proximity to each other, no more than 8 events will be approved by Community Board 10 this year on any given date and no more than 2 in each of the zip codes within the board area will be approved on any given date.

Street regulations are as follows:

There is a nine (9) hour limit for the duration of the block party event. (Example: If you close your block to traffic and start the block party at 9am you must open the street to traffic at 6 pm. If you close your block to traffic and start your block party at 11am, you must open the street to traffic at 8pm.) However, all streets must be open by 9pm at the latest. All block parties must end no later than 9pm no matter what time they began. The street must be reopened to vehicular traffic at 9pm. Blocks that have not complied in prior years and that have not reopened the street by 9pm may not be approved this year.

DJ's must stop playing music and all other amplified sound must end at 8:30pm at the latest, no matter what time you start your block party.

**At no time is the serving or consumption of alcoholic beverages permissible on either the street, curb lane, or sidewalk at any block party. All applicants for block party permits are responsible to make sure that everyone participating in your event is aware of this.**

**It is illegal to possess or discharge fireworks or to block streets with vehicles.**

Events will not be approved for blocks where any police action was required in 2023 during a block party. Events may not be approved for blocks where complaints of inordinate noise were received or where there were illegally parked vehicles blocking intersections or otherwise impeding traffic during a block party.

All street events, including block parties and street fairs, are required to recycle. Non-compliance with recycling regulations is punishable by fines starting at \$25 and increasing to \$500 for repeat violations.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Very truly yours,

*Karyn Petersen*  
District Manager