

Chapter 6
Streets and Sidewalks

6.185 Block Parties

(Cr. # 4-16)

- (1) Definitions.** In this Section, the following terms have these meanings:
- (a)** Arterial means a Public Right of Way that is designated as an Arterial by the Fire Department, Police Department and Public Works Department, as a main route for emergency vehicles across the City.
 - (b)** Block means the distance between intersections on a City street, or 200 yards, whichever is shorter.
 - (c)** Block Party means a purely social gathering among the residents of a residential neighborhood.
 - (d)** Public Right of Way means public streets, sidewalks, parking lots, pedestrian paths, bicycle paths, and similar City vehicle ways over which the public has a right to travel.
 - (e)** Section means this Municipal Code §6.185.
- (2) Applicability.** This Section applies to Block Parties that take place on Public Rights of Way. It does not apply to Special Events as defined in Municipal Code §6.18.
- (3) Permit Required.** No Block Party may take place unless a permit is first issued under this Section. Applicants to whom a permit is issued under this Section shall comply with all of the terms and provisions of this Section and the permit. There is no fee for a Block Party permit, unless the application is submitted less than 14 days before the planned date of the Block Party, in which case the fee shall be \$25.00.
- (4) Application for Permit.** Applications shall be made on forms provided by, and shall be submitted to, the City Clerk no later than 14 days before the date of the planned Block Party, and shall contain at least the following information:
- (a)** The names, addresses and telephone numbers of the persons conducting the Block Party.
 - (b)** The date, time, duration and location of the Block Party.
 - (c)** The expected number of participants.
 - (d)** A description of all items that will be placed within Public Right of Way.
 - (e)** Any other information reasonably requested on the application form.

Chapter 6
Streets and Sidewalks

6.185 Block Parties

- (5) **City Clerk Action.** If all of the application requirements of this Section are complied with by the Applicant, and the application shows that the Block Party would comply with all regulations in this Section, the City Clerk shall issue the permit for the Block Party.
- (6) **Regulations.** Block Parties are subject to the following regulations:
- (a) No more than two linear Blocks of street may be closed for a Block Party.
 - (b) Block Parties are limited to no more than 200 participants.
 - (c) Block Parties may not take place Monday through Thursday, except for holidays; or between the hours of 10:30 p.m. and 9:00 a.m.
 - (d) Block Parties may only take place in residential-zoned districts, and only on streets that are designated by the Department of Public Works as suitable for Block Parties.
 - (e) Block Parties may not take place on Arterials, detour routes, areas under construction, or any other streets designated as unsuitable for Block Parties by the Police Department or Department of Public Works, in those departments' sole discretion.
 - (f) Barricades to close the street must remain in place at all times during the Block Party, however, residents of closed streets shall be allowed vehicular access to their driveways, as necessary. Barricades will be provided by the Department of Public Works if enough are available, and if not, Applicants shall provide sufficient barricades at their own expense, of a design satisfactory to the Police Department for safe control of vehicular traffic. Applicants must pick up and return barricades, delivery will not be provided by the City.
 - (g) A clear, 15-foot path must be maintained at all times in closed streets for emergency vehicle access.
 - (h) Objects placed on Public Rights of Way must be portable enough so that they can be moved without the use of machinery.
 - (i) Charcoal, wood or gas-fueled grills or smokers; fireplaces; fire pits; chimineas and other, similar fire-containing objects shall not be placed within Public Rights of Way.
 - (j) Bounce houses and other similarly-large inflatable structures shall not be placed on Public Right of Way.
 - (k) Noise and music shall be limited to levels that will not cause unreasonable disturbance to residents in the area.
 - (l) Alcoholic beverages may be served in Public Rights of Way within the Block party area only with permission of the district's alderman, pursuant to Municipal Code §11.27.

Chapter 6
Streets and Sidewalks

6.185 Block Parties

- (m) All waste and debris must be cleaned up and properly disposed of after the Block Party ends, and the Public Right of Way restored to its prior condition.
 - (n) No additional insurance is required.
 - (o) All participants shall be responsible for compliance with the requirements of this Section.
- (7) **Penalty.** Any person violating any of the provisions of this Section or a permit issued hereunder shall be subject to forfeiture as provided by Municipal Code §25.05.