



# *Neighborhood Block Parties*

## Permit Conditions/Requirements

***This is not a permit;*** these are conditions which *may* apply to any permit issued and are provided to assist in planning your event. There may be additional conditions required as part of your permit.

Neighborhood block party closure permits are issued based on the site plan and other information presented to ISCOTT. Any subsequent changes to the plan or event characteristics after permitting must be submitted in writing to [SFMTA Temporary Street Closures](#), who will consult with the various impacted City agencies and will inform you, in writing, if the changes are acceptable, or if a new full review or permit application is required. Deviation from the approved plan, or failure to comply with permit conditions, is grounds for immediate revocation of the permit, even while the event is in progress.

- INDEMNIFICATION:** By acceptance of a street closure permit, the permittee agrees to indemnify, hold harmless and assume the defense of the City and County of San Francisco from and against any and all claims, demands and actions for damages resulting from work under this permit, regardless of the negligence of City and County of San Francisco.
- PERMITS ON SITE:** All permits associated with the street closure must be on site with the event sponsor or their designee during the street closure times.
- BARRICADES:** Event sponsors are responsible for arranging for barricades through a private vendor and/or San Francisco Public Works. The barricades must be official traffic control devices and have flashing lights if used to close a street during non-daylight hours. As well, barricades typically must be staffed at all times. A separate information sheet on barricades is available.
- EMERGENCY ACCESS:** A minimum 14-foot-wide emergency access lane must be maintained throughout the entire length of the street closure. This lane must be kept free of objects, including tables and chairs, bounce houses and so on, other than required traffic control devices (barricades, cones, delineator posts), though it may be occupied by people.
- SIDEWALK ACCESS:** The temporary use or occupancy of a public street shall not unnecessarily obstruct or bar public access onto said street. Sidewalks shall remain open at all times for normal pedestrian use.

- NO PARKING:** We recommend that for a neighborhood block party, the event sponsor leaflet cars on the block several times to remind people to move their cars. We feel this is a more effective way of communicating with neighbors – and more in keeping with the character of block parties – than posting signs and towing away cars.

However, if you need the street posted as “no parking” to create sufficient space for your event, please submit a request online at <https://www.sfmta.com/services/streets-sidewalks/temporary-signage> **at least two weeks** before the start of the tow-away times. There is a cost associated with this service. Please contact [temporarsign@sfmta.com](mailto:temporarsign@sfmta.com) if you have any questions.

- RECYCLING, COMPOST AND TRASH MANAGEMENT:** Please recycle all appropriate materials through your neighborhood recycling program. You are responsible for adherence to zero waste regulations. Please refer to the [Zero Waste Event Checklist](#) for additional information. For more information or assistance with zero waste compliance, contact the Zero Waste Events Team at [alexa.kielty@sfgov.org](mailto:alexa.kielty@sfgov.org) or 415-355-3700.
- STREET CLEAN-UP:** It’s expected that block parties will clean up after themselves. But you can arrange with Public Works for cleanup after the event; you would be charged for this service. ***If Public Works needs to cleanup after the event, you would be liable for the costs of this work.***
- RESTROOMS:** It’s assumed that block party attendees will have access to toilets in adjacent residences. If you want to have portable toilets, no more than two should be needed.
- SAN FRANCISCO FIRE DEPARTMENT (SFFD):** No permits are required if residents are using their personal BBQ/grill. However, BBQs/grills placed in the public right-of-way (street or sidewalk) should be fenced off to prevent anyone bumping into them and should have an appropriate fire extinguisher positioned alongside. Our preference is for grilling, barbequing, etc. to be done on private property.
- FOOD TRUCKS:** If you want to have a food truck at your block party, you will need to provide the name of the food truck, and may be asked to submit supporting documentation for each food truck to verify their Public Health and SFFD permits are active and up-to-date. Food vendors operating out of booths may require separate permitting from both Public Health and SFFD.
- BOUNCE HOUSE:** If you are having a bounce house (or jumpy castle) at your block party, it has to be placed in a location that does not obstruct the sidewalk or the required emergency access lane running through the entire length of the street closure. On many streets, bounce houses will not be possible.

- ❑ **ENTERTAINMENT AND SOUND:** If you want to provide entertainment or amplified sound in the street closure, you will need to apply for a Just Add Music (JAM) permit from the SF Entertainment Commission at <https://sf.gov/jam>.
- ❑ **SALE OR DISTRIBUTION OF BOTTLED WATER:** Block parties with more than 100 expected attendees are prohibited from serving or distributing any water in bottles or packages smaller than liter (33.8 fl. oz.).
- ❑ **TOBACCO ADVERTISING:** The placement of tobacco advertising and promotional displays in publicly visible locations is strictly prohibited by San Francisco Police Code Section 674. In addition, the placement of tobacco advertising and promotional displays on property owned or controlled by the City and County of San Francisco is strictly prohibited by San Francisco Administrative Code Section 4.20. Any violation of this ordinance during your event could result in the revocation of this permit.
- ❑ **ALCOHOL:** Open container laws still apply during a permitted street closure, and alcohol should not be consumed in public spaces.
- ❑ **ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS:**
  - No object of any nature shall be placed or maintained within 15 feet of any fire hydrant or within five feet of any fire alarm box or police call box.
  - No object of any nature shall be placed or maintained within any intersection or pedestrian crosswalk, nor shall any vehicle be permitted to be parked in such areas.
  - No object of any nature shall be fastened to or erected over the surface of the street or sidewalk, and no object shall be affixed to any pole or standard upon any street or sidewalk, without prior written consent of the Director of Public Works.
  - Painting upon any street or sidewalk surface shall be permitted only if a washable paint is used.
  - Adequate illumination of the area shall be maintained at all times such illumination is appropriate.
  - Official traffic-control devices and traffic signal controllers shall not be covered or blocked at any time during the period of such use or occupancy.
  - All manhole, utility, and valve box covers shall be kept clear of any fixed object.