

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
MAYOR'S OFFICE OF CITYWIDE EVENT COORDINATION AND MANAGEMENT
STREET ACTIVITY PERMIT OFFICE
NOTICE OF ADOPTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN THE Office of Citywide Events Coordination and Management by Executive Order No. 105 of 2007, and in accordance with Section 1043 of the Charter, that the Office of Citywide Events Coordination and Management proposes to amend Chapter 1 of Title 50 of the Official Compilation of Rules of the City of New York relating to street activity permits. This rule proposal was not included in the regulatory agenda because it was not contemplated at the time of publication of the regulatory agenda.

Notice regarding a public hearing about the amendment was first published on Thursday November 5, 2020, with a hearing held December 7, 2020 and the agency accepting comments until December 7, 2020. The agency was prepared to make available for public inspection all written and oral comments it received on the matter, within a reasonable time after receipt, on its website nyc.gov/cecm.

This amendment will take effect immediately.

Statement of Basis and Purpose of Proposed Rule

The Office of Citywide Events Coordination and Management (OCECM), Street Activity Permit Office (SAPO) administers New York City's permit system for street activities, block parties and fairs.

Each year apart from 2020, the year of the COVID emergency, SAPO has issued permits to over 200 street fairs and over 5,000 other events, most of which include the use of multiple blocks over several days, the erection of structures, the vending of food, apparel and other goods and the use of amplified sound and the performance of music. Events like these require additional police officers which increases overtime costs to the City. These events also divert police officers from core crime fighting, public safety and counter terrorism duties.

To more effectively deploy police resources and control overtime costs, the New York City Police Department has requested that SAPO exercise its discretion temporarily to deny permits for additional events scheduled for calendar year 2021. The proposed rules will authorize SAPO to deny permits to these events only if the event was not held in the calendar year 2019. Events that received permits in calendar year 2019 will be eligible to receive permits again in calendar year 2021, pending the absence of City- or State-imposed restrictions due to the continued COVID emergency.

SAPO authority for these rules is found in section 1043 of the New York City Charter and Executive Order No. 105 of 2007.

New material is underlined.

[Deleted material is in brackets.]

“Shall” and “must” denote mandatory requirements and may be used interchangeably in the rules of this department, unless otherwise specified or unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

Section 1-05(d) of Chapter 1 of Title 50 of the Rules of the City of New York is amended to read as set forth below.

(d) For the calendar year [2020] 2021, the Director shall deny applications for street activity permits for street fairs not held in the calendar year 2019.

Statement of Substantial Need for Earlier Implementation

I hereby find, pursuant to Section 1043(f)(1)(c) of the New York City Charter, that there is a substantial need for the implementation, immediately upon its final publication in The City Record, of a rule to extend, for an additional one-year period, the authority of the Director of the Office of Citywide Event Coordination and Management (OCECM), set forth in section 1- 05(d) of Chapter 1 of Title 50 of the Rules of the City of New York, to deny applications for street activity permits for events not held in 2019.

Each year apart from 2020, the year of the COVID emergency, SAPO issues permits to over 200 street fairs and over 5,000 other events occurring annually within the City. Almost all of these events involve permits for the use of multiple blocks over several days, the erection of structures, the vending of food, apparel and other goods and the use of amplified sound and the performance of music. Such events require additional police presence and increase overtime expenditure by the City. In order to effectively deploy police resources, the New York City Police Department has requested for the calendar year 2021 that SAPO exercise its discretion temporarily to deny permits for additional events that place an excessive burden on police resources and divert uniformed personnel from core crime fighting, public safety and counter terrorism duties.

In the interests of protecting the City and its inhabitants, this rule will authorize SAPO to deny permits to certain events for an additional year if the event was not held in the calendar year 2019.

Ellyn Canfield, Executive Director
Office of Citywide Event
Coordination and Management

Approved: _____
Bill de Blasio, Mayor

Date: _____
December 28, 2020