

**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 has amended Chapter 1 of Title 50 of the Official Compilation of Rules of the City of New York relating to street activity permits.

Notice regarding a public hearing about the amendment was first published on October 20, 2023, with a hearing held November 20, 2023, and the agency accepting comments until November 20, 2023. Approximately 38 comments were received. The portion of the proposed rule relating to the Open Streets program has been temporarily withdrawn for further consideration. 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, between the hours of 9:30 A.M. and 4:30 P.M. at the Office of Citywide Events Coordination and Management, 253 Broadway, 6th Floor, New York, New York 10007.

**Statement of Basis and Purpose**

**Open Culture Program**

The Mayor's Office of Citywide Events Coordination and Management (CECM), which oversees the Street Activity Permit Office (SAPO), has been designated under Local Law No. 80 of 2023 to administer the rules governing the issuance of permits for the Open Culture Program.

Section 2509 of the Charter as added by Local Law No. 80 of 2023 directs CECM to establish an Open Culture Program, pursuant to which an eligible art and cultural institution may utilize a roadway for an artistic or cultural event. The law further directs CECM to establish eligibility and use guidelines and policies for such program and promulgate any necessary rules. These rules establish an application process and create requirements for the Open Culture Program and allow SAPO to issue street activity permits for this program in accordance with Local Law No. 80 of 2023.

**Street Fair Moratorium**

To more effectively deploy police resources and control overtime costs, the New York City Police Department has recommended that SAPO exercise its discretion to deny permit applications for new multi-block/multi day street fair events in calendar year 2024. These rules authorize SAPO to deny permit applications for street fairs if the street fair was not held in the

calendar year 2023. Events that received permits in calendar year 2023 may be eligible to receive permits again in calendar year 2024.

Each year SAPO issues permits to over 200 street fairs and over 6,000 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 counterterrorism duties.

CECM authority for these rules is found in section 1043 of the New York City Charter, Local Law 8 of 2021, and Executive Order Nos. 100 and 105 of 2007, which established and conferred rulemaking authority upon the Coordinator of Citywide Special Events.

New material is underlined.

[Deleted material is in brackets.]

Asterisks (\*\*\*) indicate unamended text.

“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. The definitions of “Art and Cultural Institution”, “Cultural Venue”, “Open Culture Event” and “Open Culture Street”, as set forth in Section 1-01 of chapter 1 of title 50 of the Rules of the City of New York, are amended to read as follows:**

**"Art and Cultural Institution"** means (i) an art or cultural group, organization or institution within the city of New York that is a member of the cultural institutions group, as determined by the department of cultural affairs, or that is eligible to apply for a grant through the cultural development fund administered by such department, or (ii) a person providing documentation of funding from a borough arts council within the prior two years, or (iii) has fiscal sponsorship from a person or entity that meets the definition set forth in (i) or (ii) of this definition.

**["Cultural Venue"** means an entertainment facility in the city of New York intended or designed to be used for a performance in front of a live audience.]

**"Open Culture Event"** means an event where the applicant or sponsor is an art and cultural institution [or cultural venue] including, but not limited to, cultural performances, rehearsals, and classes, that is free and open to the public and offers free services or information to the community and where the activity will take place in the roadway [on an Open Culture street] and obstruct the regular use of the location by pedestrian or vehicular traffic but shall not include activities conducted pursuant to a parade or construction permit. An Open Culture Event shall not be considered a Street event or Plaza event for the purposes of these rules.

**["Open Culture Street"** means a street designated by the Department of Transportation for inclusion in the Open Culture program.]

**§ 2. Subdivisions (i) and (j) of section 1-03 of chapter 1 of title 50 of the Rules of the City of New York are amended to read as follows**

(i) For Open Culture Events, the Director of SAPO may establish guidelines that restrict certain event elements, as well as activities that would require additional agency permits. [Unless otherwise provided by law, the Open Culture program shall remain in effect until March 31, 2022, and the final application deadline for any Open Culture event shall be March 16, 2022.]

(j) The Director of SAPO may establish guidelines that set limits on the frequency of Open Culture events from a single applicant or sponsor to ensure that numerous applicants and sponsors are able to utilize [Open Streets] roadways for Open Culture Events. Such guidelines may take into consideration the concentration of events in certain neighborhoods, and the provision of equitable access to all groups.

**§ 3. Subdivision d of section 1-04 of chapter 1 of Title 50 of the Rules of the City of New York is amended to read as follows:**

(d) There shall be a non-refundable twenty-five dollar processing fee for all applications [with the exception of applications for Open Culture events which shall have a fee of twenty dollars]. Online submissions may be subject to an additional convenience fee.

**§ 4. Subdivisions d, g, h, and i of section 1-05 of chapter 1 of Title 50 of the Rules of the City of New York are amended to read as follows:**

(d) For the calendar year [2023] 2024, the Director will deny applications for Street event permits for street fairs not held in the calendar year [2022] 2023.

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(g) [The Director will deny applications submitted for Open Culture event permits for any location that is not an Open Culture Street.

(h)] Notwithstanding anything in this section, this Director shall not deny an application for a Press Conference/Rally/Stationary Demonstration other than under paragraph 7

of subdivision b of this section or unless the requested time or location conflicts with another permit, in which case the applicant shall be offered an alternative time or location for the Press Conference/Rally/Stationary Demonstration.

[(i) Notwithstanding any other time period for review provided by these rules, notification of the approval or denial of an Open Culture event application shall be made within 5 days of receipt of a complete application.]

**§ 5. The table contained in subdivision c of section 1-08 of chapter 1 of Title 50 of the Rules of the City of New York is amended to read as follows:**

<b>Event Type</b>	<b>Fee</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
Block Party	[Processing] \$25 processing fee only	60 Days
Charitable Event	20% of the event fee charged based on the event size and location	30 Days
Civic Event	[Processing] \$25 processing fee only	14 Days
Clean-up	[Processing] \$25 processing fee only	60 Days
Day fee (as per 50 RCNY § 1-08(a))	\$35 each day after the first day	
Extra Large Event, Street or Plaza	Up to \$66,000 per location	
Farmers Market	\$15 per day	60 Days
Health Fair	[Processing] \$25 processing fee only	30 Days
Open Culture Event	[Processing] \$25 processing fee only	15 Days
Plaza Event (Pedestrian plaza Level A)	Fee per Plaza block	45 Days (1 Plaza block)
	\$31,000 Large	60 days (Multiple Plaza blocks)
	\$15,500 Small or Medium	
Plaza Event (Pedestrian plaza Level B)	MN Plaza Event Fees per Plaza block	
	\$20,000 Large	30 Days (1 Plaza block)
	\$10,000 Medium	45 days (Multiple Plaza blocks)
	\$5,000 Small	

	SI, QN, BX, BK Plaza Event Fees per Plaza block  \$8,000 Large  \$4,000 Medium  \$2,000 Small	
Plaza Event (Pedestrian plaza Level C)	MN Plaza Event Fees per Plaza block  \$11,000 Large  \$5,500 Medium  \$2,500 Small  SI, QN, BX, BK Plaza Event Fees per Plaza block  \$5,000 Large  \$2,500 Medium  \$1,000 Small	30 Days
Plaza Event (Pedestrian plaza Level D)	MN Plaza Event Fees  \$2,500 Large  \$1,250 Medium or Small  SI, QN, BX, BK Plaza  \$2,000 Large  \$1,000 Medium or Small	14 Days
Press Conference/ Rally/Stationary Demonstration	[Processing] \$25 processing fee only	10 Days unless need for event could not be anticipated in advance

Production Event	\$290 (with curb lane or sidewalk) \$700 (with curb lane and sidewalk)	10 Days
Street event	Street event, Large \$25,000 Street event, Medium \$11,000 Street event, Small \$3,100	45 Days 30 Days 14 Days
Street Fair	20% of the total fee paid by vendors to participate	December 31st of the preceding year. Applications for 1 day/1 block, 90 days