

City of Providence
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

CHAPTER 2012-40

No. 348

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE I, "IN GENERAL," OF CHAPTER 23, "STREETS, SIDEWALKS AND PUBLIC PLACES" BY ADDING THERETO THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS:

Approved June 22, 2012

Be it ordained by the City of Providence:

WHEREAS, Special events are an integral part of the cultural life of Providence; and

WHEREAS, Events such as fairs, festivals, charitable fundraisers, athletic competitions, and block parties attract visitors, build community, support local businesses, and energize our capital city; and

WHEREAS, The majority of such special events take place on public property, including streets, sidewalks and parks; and

WHEREAS, The City of Providence has an obligation to ensure public safety during special events that take place on public property; and

WHEREAS, Planning and staffing such events requires allocating substantial resources of city departments, including police, public works, and others; and

WHEREAS, Individuals and organizations holding special events are required to complete several applications with various City departments prior to hosting such activities; and

WHEREAS, A streamlined special event permit application process would enable the City to provide improved public safety and traffic control, and also simplify special event planning for individuals and organizations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE that:

SECTION 1. The Code of Ordinances of the City of Providence, Article VI, of Chapter 23 is hereby amended by adding thereto the following:

Sec. 23-36. - Special Event Permits.

(a) Events including, but not limited to, parades, performances, athletic competitions, community or charitable events, block parties, or fairs, which take place, in whole or in part, on public property require a special event permit. A special event permit shall be issued according to the following requirements:

- (1) Applications for events with five hundred (500) or fewer participants must be filed sixty (60) days or more before the date of the event, and require a special event permit fee of fifty dollars (\$50). Applications received fewer than sixty (60) days prior to the date of the event shall accrue an additional fee of ten dollars (\$10) per day. Applications for events with one hundred (100) or fewer participants may apply for an expedited application as established by regulation for a fee of twenty five dollars (\$25.00).
- (2) Applications for events with more than five hundred (500) participants must be filed ninety (90) days prior to the date of the event, and require a special event permit fee of seventy-five dollars (\$75). Applications received fewer than ninety (90) days prior to the date of the event shall accrue an additional fee of ten dollars (\$10) per day.
- (3) Proof of liability insurance shall be required prior to the issuance of a special event permit.
 - a. Events with fewer than five thousand (5,000) participants shall require one million dollars (\$1,000,000), in liability insurance; and
 - b. Events with more than five thousand (5,000) participants shall require five million dollars (\$5,000,000) in liability insurance.
- (4) Additional fees shall be assessed for street closures, traffic control, police or fire detail, or other services from City departments that are necessary to carry out the special event.

- (5) The department of arts, culture, and tourism, or any other department as may be designated by the mayor, shall develop special event guidelines in accordance with this section. The department shall accept and review applications for special event permits, shall issue special event permits, and shall inform applicant of additional requirements including services, permits, and licenses, and shall refer the applicant to the appropriate departments to comply with such requirements.
- (6) Events to be held in City parks require, in addition to the other requirements provided in this section, the completion of a park permit application, which must be reviewed by the superintendent of parks. Park permit applications must be approved by the superintendent prior to the issuance of a special use permit by the department of arts, culture, and tourism.
- (b) A special event permit may be denied according to the following guidelines:
- (1) The location of the event is already reserved for another use at the day and hour requested in the application. In such case, the City will attempt to provide an alternate site, route, time, or day to the applicant.
 - (2) The activity is to be held for the sole purpose of advertising products or goods, and/or is designed to be held purely for commercial profit; or
 - (3) The proposed attendance, duration, and/or usage of sound amplification equipment would constitute a disturbance of the surrounding neighborhood, and would violate the noise control regulations of this Code or of state law. If the applicant's request is denied, every effort shall be made to offer an alternative location acceptable to the applicant.
 - (4) The applicant has an outstanding balance more than 60 (sixty) days delinquent for police and fire details, or other city services, as provided for in Section 16-27.

SECTION 2. This ordinance shall take effect upon passage.

IN CITY COUNCIL
JUN 07 2012
FIRST READING
READ AND PASSED

Am. M. Stute CLERK

IN CITY
COUNCIL
JUN 21 2012

FINAL READING
READ AND PASSED

Am. M. Stute PRESIDENT
Am. M. Stute CLERK

I HEREBY APPROVE

Am. M. Stute Mayor
Date: 6/22/12