

Fee Waivers for Qualifying Neighborhood Outdoor Events

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Background

- Arts and culture play a critical role in our citywide economic recovery
- Outdoor events support local merchants, artists and vendors, provide space for cultural celebrations, and attract tourists
 - Fees can be challenging, especially for smaller community events
 - Waiving fees can strengthen returning community events and incentivize new events

Qualifying Neighborhood Outdoor Events

- Single-day event between 8am-10pm
- Maximum of three continuous blocks
- Sponsored by an arts nonprofit, small business in the area, merchant/resident association, or CBD/BID
- Free and open to the public
- Maximum of six hours of amplified sound
- Without substantial transit/traffic impacts as determined by SFMTA

Fees Eligible for Waiver

- Any application, permit, inspection, or staffing fees from any of the following departments:
 - Department of Public Health
 - Fire Department
 - Entertainment Commission
 - Police Department
- Legislation encourages SFMTA Board to waive SFMTA fees
- Would require annual reporting to the Board and the Mayor about impacts

Additional Limitations

- Blocks requiring transit rerouting only eligible for three waivers per calendar year
- Requesting amendment to restore limit of 12 events per applicant per year (unintentionally removed in substitute legislation)
- Does not apply retroactively

Implementation

- SFMTA would be empowered to implement this waiver and adopt any rules, regulations, forms
- Applicant would need to seek fee waiver from SFMTA prior to applying for ISCOTT street closure permit
- SFMTA would then inform relevant departments of waiver eligibility

Questions

