



**CITY OF CLEVELAND**  
Mayor Frank G. Jackson



# **Republican National Convention Official Event Zone Permit Regulations**

**(Official Parade Route, Park Use and Speakers Platform Regulations)**

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**May 25, 2016**

WHEREAS, the City of Cleveland has been selected to host the 2016 Republican National Convention which is scheduled to take place from July 18, 2016 to July 21, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the Convention is expected to attract approximately 50,000 visitors to the City; and

WHEREAS, the size and significance of the Convention creates unique challenges for the City that require additional regulations to assist in promoting and protecting the general health, safety, and welfare of the residents and visitors of the City during the Convention; and

WHEREAS, persons and groups have a First Amendment right to organize and participate in peaceful assemblies and parades on the sidewalks and rights-of-way and in the parks of the City, and to engage in peaceful assemblies and parades near the Convention so they may be seen and heard, subject to reasonable restrictions designed to protect public safety, persons and property, and to accommodate the interest of persons not participating in the assemblies and parades to use the sidewalks and rights-of-way to travel to their intended destinations and use the parks for recreational purposes; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes the compelling need to facilitate safe and orderly movement of vehicular and pedestrian traffic during the Convention; and

WHEREAS, under Ordinance No. 880-14, passed July 16, 2014, the Board of Control is authorized to approve reasonable time, place and manner regulations promulgated by the appropriate director regarding the issuance of public gathering permits, demonstration permits, temporary use permits, parade permits, and business access and operations permits during the period starting one month before the first day of the Convention until one week after the completion of the Convention; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Control has determined that the following regulations, including but not limited to, time, place, and manner restrictions, promulgated by the Directors of Public Safety and Public Works will promote and protect the general safety and welfare of the residents of and visitors to of the City during the Convention while also allowing persons and organizations to exercise their First Amendment rights to peacefully assemble and parade;

NOW, THEREFORE,

TEMPORARY PARADE AND PARK PERMITS, SPEAKERS PLATFORM AND USE REGULATIONS

Section I. General Provisions

(a) *Incorporation.* The recitals set forth above are hereby incorporated as if fully set forth herein.

(b) *Purpose.* These Regulations are intended to provide guidance for the issuance of permits for and use of City streets and public property during the 2016 Republican National Convention, to both ensure the efficient processing of all conforming applications for permits, and to protect the public interest and safety.

(c) *General Requirement.* Permits for the use of public streets and public property during the 2016 Republican National Convention may be granted only in accordance with these Regulations.

(d) *Effective Date.* These regulations shall go into effect immediately, and terminate at 12:01 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time on July 24, 2016. In the event that the 2016 Republican National Convention is delayed, the effectiveness of these regulations shall automatically extend to 12:01 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time on the day after the conclusion of the Convention or on July 25, 2016, whichever date is later.

Section II. Parade and Park Use Permits and Speakers Platform Use  
During the Convention Period

(a) *Definitions.* As used in this section:

(1) “Camping” means to set up or to remain on Public Grounds for the purpose of establishing or maintaining a temporary place to live;

(2) “Chief” means the Chief of Police or the Chief’s designee;

(3) “City” means the City of Cleveland, Ohio;

(4) “Codified Ordinances” mean the Codified Ordinances of Cleveland, Ohio, 1976;

(5) “Convention” means the 2016 Presidential Nomination Convention of the Republican National Party scheduled to be held on July 18, 2016 through July 21, 2016;

(6) “Convention Period” means the time period commencing at 6:00 a.m. on Monday, July 18, 2016 and extending until 12:01 a.m. on Saturday, July 23, 2016;

(7) “Crosswalk” means:

A. That part of a roadway at intersections ordinarily included within the real or projected prolongation of property lines and curb lines or, in the absence of curbs, the edges of the traversable roadway;

B. Any portion of a roadway at an intersection or elsewhere, distinctly indicated for pedestrian crossing by lines or other markings on the surface;

C. Notwithstanding subsections (a) and (b) hereof, there shall not be a crosswalk where local authorities have placed signs indicating no crossing;

(8) “Director” shall mean the Director of Public Safety or the Director’s designee;

(9) "Event Zone" shall mean the portion of the City within the boundaries on the map attached hereto, excluding spaces designated as the Secure Zone;

(10) "Official Parade Route" means a route commencing on the Lorain Carnegie Bridge at a point 500 feet east of the intersection with West 20th Street, proceeding in a northeasterly direction on the Lorain Carnegie Bridge to the intersection with Ontario Avenue, turning right and proceeding on Ontario Avenue in an easterly direction and ending at the intersection of Orange Avenue and East 9<sup>th</sup> Street. Parade participants may egress on the sidewalk out of the Official Parade Route on either East 9<sup>th</sup> Street or East 14<sup>th</sup> Street;

(11) "Official Speakers Platform" means the speakers area designated by the City on Public Square in front of the statue of Moses Cleaveland;

(12) "Parade" means any formation, march, procession of any kind, or motorcade consisting of persons, animals, or Vehicles or combination thereof traveling in unison for a common purpose upon the streets, excluding sidewalks, within the City that interferes with the normal flow or regulation of vehicular or pedestrian traffic upon the streets within the City;

(13) "Park Use" means the use of Public Grounds for Public Art or a Public Installation;

(14) "Pedestrian" means any natural person afoot;

(15) "Person" means any natural person, firm, co-partnership, association or corporation;

(16) "Public Grounds" means property under the control of the City in the Event Zone to which the general public has access, including all public lands and any paved areas on such property, but excluding streets, public buildings, and sidewalks adjoining streets;

(17) "Public Installation" means the placement of any structure or physical object which hinders the free use and passage of pedestrians on Public Grounds, including tables, chairs, temporary structures and canopies;

(18) "Public Art" means the placement of art or other object containing public messaging on any Public Grounds with the intention to leave it for a period of time to be viewed by the public;

(19) “Secure Zone” means the area or areas in the Event Zone to which access is restricted by the United States Secret Service or the Department of Public Safety;

(20) “Severe Weather” means the forecasting or occurrence of weather phenomena affecting the City that requires the National Weather Service to issue a severe weather watch or warning for weather phenomena including, but not limited to severe thunderstorms, tornados and floods;

(21) “Sound Amplification Equipment” means any system or piece of equipment used for the production of amplified sound, excluding megaphones, bullhorns and portable battery-operated sound amplification devices;

(22) “Speakers Platform” means the placement and use of a podium, platform, pedestal, stand or similar object to make a public speech, other than the Official Speakers Platform;

(23) “Street” means any place or way set aside or open to the general public for purposes of vehicular traffic, including any berm or shoulder parkway, right-of-way, or median strip thereof, excluding Sidewalks;

(24) “Sidewalk” means the portion of a street adjacent to the curb lines or the lateral lines of a roadway and the adjacent property lines, intended for use of pedestrians; and

(25) “Vehicle” means every device, including a motorized bicycle, in, upon, or by which any person or property may be transported or drawn upon a highway, except that "vehicle" does not include any motorized wheelchair, electric personal assistive mobility devices, any device that is moved by power collected from overhead electric trolley wires or that is used exclusively upon stationary rails or tracts, or any device, other than a bicycle, that is moved by human power. A bicycle is a "vehicle".

(b) *Persons Prohibited in the Secure Zone.* No person shall be inside the Secure Zone during the time periods designated by the United States Secret Service or the Department of Public Safety with authorization.

(c) *Permit and Registration Required.* No person shall engage in or conduct a Parade or place Public Art or a Public Installation in the Event Zone without first obtaining a permit issued as provided in these Regulations. No person

shall use the Official Speakers Platform without first registering as provided in these Regulations. No person shall use a Speakers Platform during the period inside the Event Zone except for the Official Speakers Platform.

(d) *Types of Permits in the Event Zone.* The following permits can be obtained from the City for the Event Zone during the Convention Period:

- (1) *Official Parade Route Permit.* An Official Parade Route Permit is required to parade in the Event Zone during the Convention Period; and
- (2) *Park Use Permit.* A Park Use Permit is required to place Public Art or a Public Installation in the Event Zone during the Convention Period.

(e) *Time Restrictions Applicable to All Permits in the Event Zone.* The following time restrictions apply to issuance of the following permits:

(1) Official Parade Route Permits may be obtained for Monday, July 18, 2016 thru Thursday, July 21, 2016—On Monday between 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.; On Tuesday through Thursday between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. each day.

- A. Each Official Parade Route Permit will cover a one-hour time period beginning on the hour. The final parade each day must clear the entire parade route and be dispersed by 5:00 p.m. on Monday and by 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday through Thursday. Only a single permit will be issued for each one-hour period within the designated time periods set forth above.
- B. Groups must gather in the designated staging area as marked on the attached map for the Official Parade Route one-half hour before the time that the parade starts. Official Parade Route staging shall occur at the western end of the Lorain Carnegie Bridge near West 20th Street.

(2) Park Use Permits may be obtained for Monday, July 18, 2016 through Thursday, July 21, 2016—Between 9:30 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. each day.

(3) No permit issued under these Regulations shall be transferable.

(f) *Official Parade Route Regulations.* The following regulations apply to persons while participating in a Parade at the Official Parade Route:

- (1) Permit holders must be present during their assigned time slots;
- (2) Permit holders must show proof of permit and a photo ID at the time of check-in;
- (3) Parade participants must be fully assembled by the assigned step-off time. Failure to step-off within ten (10) minutes of an assigned start time may result in a forfeiture of the time slot for the Parade.
- (4) Vehicles may not be used in the Parade;
- (5) Parade participants will have 50 minutes to complete their procession to the end of the Official Parade Route;
- (6) Upon completion of the procession or at the end of the designated time slot for the Parade, whichever is sooner, the participants in the Parade must clear the Official Parade Route; and

(7) Sound Amplification Equipment may not be used by Parade participants;

(g) *Park Use Regulations.* The following regulations apply to persons while using or participating in a Park Use:

- (1) Public Art and Public Installation may only be placed in the Event Zone on Perk Plaza and Willard Park;
- (2) Permit holders must be present during their assigned time;
- (3) Permit holders must show proof of permit and a photo ID at the time of check-in;
- (4) All Public Art and Public Installations must be placed temporarily, not secured to the ground, and be fully removable upon expiration of the permit;
- (5) Advertising utilized solely for the opportunity to gain commercial or corporate exposure, or as a means to generate commercial sales, or increase corporate or commercial activity is prohibited;

(6) Permit holders shall make certain that participants do not distribute materials for private pecuniary gain;

(7) Fires of any kind are strictly prohibited;

(8) No person shall damage, mark, deface or cause any injury to any existing trees, plants, monuments, art or objects located in Public Grounds;

(9) Vehicles are prohibited from being parked on any Public Grounds without the written permission of the Director;

(10) Camping is prohibited; and

(11) The use of Sound Amplification Equipment is prohibited.

(h) *Official Speakers Platform Regulations.* The following regulations apply to persons while using the Official Speakers Platform:

(1) Persons may use the Official Speakers Platform from Monday, July 18, 2016 through Thursday, July 21, 2016, between 9:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. each day. The final use of the Official Speakers Platform will end at 6:30 p.m. each day;

(2) Use of the Official Speakers Platform is on a strictly first-come first-served basis;

(3) Use of the Official Speakers Platform shall be limited to thirty-minute increments. Registered persons must check in no later than fifteen (15) minutes prior to their assigned time;

(4) All microphones and Sound Amplification Equipment will be provided by the City. No speaker may use his or her own microphone and/or Sound Amplification Equipment.

(i) *Application and Registration Filing.* A person seeking an Official Parade Route Permit or a Park Use Permit within the Event Zone shall file an application with the Division of Assessments and Licenses on the forms and in the manner provided and the application form shall be signed by the applicant. Any person or group seeking to use the Official Speakers Platform must register with the Division of Assessments and Licenses on the forms and in the manner provided.



(j) *Filing Periods.* The City will accept an application for an Official Parade Route Permit, a Park Use Permit, or registration for use of the Official Speakers Platform at any time up until the Convention Period. It is anticipated, however, that there may be a large volume of requests for the available space for permitted uses and multiple requests may be received for use of the same space at the same time. For this reason, all applicants are strongly encouraged to file applications for Official Parade Route Permits or Park Use Permits by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time on Friday, July 8, 2016. Similarly, users of the Official Speakers Platform are strongly encouraged to register by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on Friday, July 8, 2016. A separate application is required for each day, time slot, and location for which a permit is requested. Applications will be considered on a first-come, first-served basis only.

(k) *Application Contents.* The application for an Official Parade Route Permit or a Park Use Permit shall contain the following information:

- (1) The name, address, day-time telephone number, and email, if available, of the applicant;
- (2) The name, address, and telephone number of the headquarters of the organization for which the Parade is to be conducted;
- (3) The name and telephone number of the on-site coordinator or person in charge of the Parade or the Park Use, if different from the applicant;
- (4) The date, time and estimated duration of the placement of Public Art or Public Installation, including time for set-up or take-down and any alternative dates and time;
- (5) A description of the proposed location on Public Grounds for the Public Art or Public Installation;
- (6) The date and time requested for the Parade or the Park Use and any possible alternative dates and times;
- (7) The approximate number of persons who will constitute the Parade; and
- (8) The name and contact information for any private security service to be provided by the organizer, if applicable.

(l) Registration Contents; Registration. The registration for use of the Official Speaker's Platform shall contain the following information:

(1) The name), address, day-time telephone number, and email address, if available, of the registrant;

(2) The proposed date and time of the use of the Official Speakers Platform.

(m) *Application Review.* Applications for an Official Parade Route Permit or a Park Use Permit shall be reviewed by the Division of Assessments and Licenses, the Office of Special Events and Marketing, the Division of Police, the Division of Fire and the Division of EMS, and approved by the Chief and the Directors of Public Safety and Public Works, or the Directors' designees, before a permit is issued. In determining whether to issue a permit, the following factors shall be considered:

(1) Whether the information contained in the permit application is found to be false, misleading, or incomplete in any material detail;

(2) Whether the time, place, or size of the Parade or Park Use including any staging areas, will unreasonably interfere with the safe and expeditious movement of pedestrian and vehicular traffic, ingress or egress to or use of adjoining private property, or unreasonably disrupt the use of a street when it is usually subject to significant traffic congestion;

(3) Whether the Parade or Park Use will present an unreasonable danger to the health or safety of participants or other members of the public, or cause damage to public or private property;

(4) Whether a permit for a Parade, Park Use, or other special event has been granted or an application has previously been received and will be granted, for the same time and approximate location, or would unreasonably interfere with another Parade, Park Use, or other special event for which a permit has been issued; or

(5) Whether the applicant, the organization, or persons represented by the applicant or organization have previously violated the provisions of a similar permit or have violated any City ordinances or state or federal laws in connection with a previous Parade or other public assembly in the City.

(n) *Exception.* A person or group is not required to obtain a permit for a Parade in the Event Zone before conducting the event where the Parade will take place on Sidewalks and Crosswalks and will not prevent pedestrian traffic from using the Sidewalks or Crosswalks or interfere with vehicular traffic on the Streets at the Crosswalks, and will not occur on Streets;

(o) *Exception for Large Groups.* No Parade of more than two hundred (200) individuals shall be held within five hundred (500) feet of any other Parade involving more than two hundred (200) individuals whether on a Sidewalk or on the Official Parade Route in the Event Zone.

(p) *Permit or Registration Fee.* There shall be no fee charged for an Official Parade Route Permit, a Park Use Permit, or for the use of the Official Speakers Platform in the Event Zone during the Convention Period.

(q) *Permit Revocation.* The Director may revoke or suspend any permit granted under this section because of any false statement made in the application for the permit or a violation of these Regulations.

(r) *Severe Weather.* Any permit issued under these Regulations or use of the Official Speakers Platform may be suspended or terminated effective immediately in the event of Severe Weather. The Director of Public Safety in consultation with the Director of Public Works will determine whether Severe Weather impacts the general welfare and safety of the community and will make the final determination to terminate or suspend any permits. Notice of the termination or suspension will be sent to the applicant, and a public notice will issued to the media.

(s) *Appeals.* If an application for a permit is denied or revoked, the applicant or permittee shall be notified in writing by email, if available, or by telephone and regular mail to the address on the application with the reason for the denial or revocation. An applicant or permittee shall have the right to appeal the denial or revocation of a permit within three (3) business days of receipt of the notice of denial to the Director. The Director shall hold a hearing on the denial or revocation within three (3) business days of receipt of the notice of appeal. If the Director determines that the denied or revoked permit should be granted, the applicant shall be notified in writing and obtain the permit. If the Director determines that a denied or revoked permit should be reinstated, the permittee shall be notified in writing and proceed as if the permit was not denied or revoked. If the Director affirms the denial or revocation of the permit, the applicant shall be immediately notified of the decision and shall have the right to appeal the denial

within the same time and in the same manner provided in Section 403.09 of the Codified Ordinances.

(t) *Other Parades and Special Events.* Because of the large crowds and vehicular traffic, including buses, anticipated in the Event Zone during the Convention, the City cannot accommodate parades on City streets in the Event Zone except for Parades on the Official Parade Route. Groups seeking to conduct a Parade on a City street or to hold a special event on a City park located outside of the Event Zone during the Convention Period may apply for a parade permit under Codified Ordinance Section 411.05 or a special event permit under Codified Ordinance Section 131.07.

### Section III. Prohibited Items

(a) *Definitions.* As used in this section:

(1) The terms “Convention Period,” “Event Zone,” “Public Grounds,” “Secure Zone,” “Sidewalk,” and “Street” shall have the same meaning as Section II of these Regulations; and

(2) “Public Access Areas” shall mean any space in the Event Zone, excluding spaces designated as the Secure Zone, that is open to access by the general public, including Streets, Sidewalks and Public Grounds.

(b) Within all Public Access Areas, the following items are prohibited during the Convention Period:

(1) Lumber larger than 2” in width and ¼” thick, including supports for signs;

(2) Metal, plastic, or other hard material larger than ¾” thick and 1/8” in wall thickness including pipe and tubing;

(3) Any air rifle, air pistol, paintball gun, blasting caps, switchblade or automatic knife, knife having a blade two and one-half (2-1/2) inches in length or longer, cestus, billy, blackjack, sword, saber, hatchet, axe, slingshot, BB gun, pellet gun, wrist shot, blackjack, metal knuckles, nun chucks, mace,

iron buckle, axe handle, shovel, or other instrumentality used to cause property or personal damage;

(4) Any dangerous ordinance, weapon, or firearm that is prohibited by the laws of the State of Ohio;

(5) Any explosives, explosive device, or incendiary device;

(6) Fireworks and rockets;

(7) Sound Amplification Equipment;

(8) Drones and other unmanned aircraft systems;

(9) Containers of bodily fluids;

(10) Aerosol cans;

(11) Mace, Pepper Spray or other chemical irritant;

(12) Umbrellas with metal tips;

(13) Any projectile launchers, such as water guns and water cannons;

(14) Rope, chain, cable, strapping, wire, string, line, tape, or any similar material, in lengths greater than 6’;

(15) Glass bottles, ornaments, light bulbs, ceramic vessels, and any other frangible container, regardless of whether the container holds any substance;

(16) Locks including, without limitation, padlocks, bicycle locking devices, chain locks or similar devices, but not including: (i) an integral component of a conveyance or structure; (ii) locks when utilized by the owner of private real property to secure permanent or temporary fencing; or (iii) locks attached to a bicycle;

(17) Any gas mask or similar device designed to filter all air breathed by the wearer in an attempt to protect the respiratory tract and/or face against irritating or noxious gasses or other materials. This prohibition on gas masks shall not apply to any person wearing a medical oxygen mask that

fits over the nose and mouth of the person and provides oxygen from an oxygen tank to the person;

(18) Tents and other shelters, sleeping bags, sleeping pads, mattresses, cots, hammocks, bivy sacks, or stoves;

(19) Coolers or ice chests;

(20) Backpacks and bags exceeding the size of 18" x 13" x 7";

(21) Lasers;

(22) Non-plastic containers, bottles, cans, or thermoses;

(23) Ladders;

(24) Grappling hooks, sledgehammers, hammers, and crowbars;

(25) Canned goods;

(26) Tennis balls; and

(27) Any other item determined by the Chief or Director to be a clear and present danger to the safety of others.

(c) The prohibitions of this section shall not be applicable to:

(1) Persons possessing an item listed above when (i) the person or his/her employer maintains a place of employment within the Event Zone; and (ii) the possession of said item is in the normal course of the person's licensed business or employment and to be used within place of employment; and

(2) Persons possessing an item listed above when (i) the person resides within the Event Zone; and (ii) the possession of said item kept and used within the person's residence;

(3) Law enforcement personnel or other local, state, or federal government employees possessing a prohibited item in the course of their authorized duties; and

(4) Any licensed medical professional in the performance of their medical duties.

Section V. Possession of Obstruction Devices Prohibited; Placing Objects in the Rights-of-Way, Sidewalks, and Roadways

(a) It is unlawful for any person, with the intent to obstruct the public's ability to freely move about on rights-of-way, sidewalks and other areas to which the public has access, to possess or place any tool, object, instrument, or any combination thereof, that is adapted, designed, or intended to be used for obstructing the public's ability to freely move about on rights-of-way, sidewalks or any other area to which the public has access.

This shall include, but is not limited to, the maneuver commonly referred to as the "Sleeping Dragon," tripods, bipod, pole, any sections of pipe or containers filled with or wrapped in weighted material such as concrete and/or containing handcuffs, chains, carabiners, padlocks, road stars, or other locking devices.

(b) It is unlawful for any person to inhibit, for any reason, the movement of emergency equipment on streets, rights-of-way or sidewalks.

(c) It is unlawful for any person to place any instrument, tripod, bipod or other pole or object with the intent to obstruct the public's ability to freely move about on rights-of-way, sidewalks, entrance and exit to private property or any other area to which the public has access.

(d) It is unlawful for any person to attach themselves to another person, building, Vehicle, or fixture with the intent to obstruct the public's ability to freely move about on rights-of-way, sidewalks, entrances and exits to private property, or any other area to which the public has access.

(e) Government employees in the performance of their official duties shall be exempt from this section.

Section VI. Conflict Provision

In the event of a conflict between these regulations and the Codified Ordinances of Cleveland, Ohio, 1976, or any other City ordinance or regulation, these Regulations shall control.

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