

City of New Orleans

Department of Safety and Permits

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Administrative Rule 17-07

Standards and Procedures for the New Orleans Streetlight Banner Program

Effective December 11, 2017

Standards and Procedures for: New Orleans Streetlight Banner Permit

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NOTE: This document was received by the New Orleans City Council on October 26, 2017. No action was taken and in accordance with Section 2-1000 of the City Code, these rules became effective at 12:01 AM on December 11, 2017.

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Introduction

The City of New Orleans' Streetlight Banner Program is a Rule that aims to raise awareness of and promote local civic and community events and occasions in a high-impact, place-based manner. Local organizations will be allowed to hang banners under certain conditions and specifications if first approved in writing by the City as detailed below. **Banners, or other décor, may not be installed on City property without a permit.**

Purpose

The purpose of this program is to allow organizations to promote local civic and community events, occasions or special events in the City that have a direct and substantial civic or community benefit. The event or occasion should be of such a nature that its promotion, via appropriate messaging displayed on City property, will benefit the citizens of New Orleans. Political campaigning is not permitted under this policy.

Permits may be granted by the City pursuant to this program for promoting business districts within the City, hospital districts within the City and educational institutions within the City. Sponsors may hold permits if they are acting as the agent providing insurance, management, etc. for a local organization.

The City may regulate the content of the banners to ensure that they effectuate the purpose of promoting local events or occasions that have a direct and substantial civic or community benefit, and impose other time, place and manner restrictions necessary to protect City property, City benefits, welfare of the citizenry, and public safety.

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Application Process

Applications must be submitted no later than 45 days prior to installation. Reservations are finalized upon the City's issuance of a permit. To apply, please provide the following information in writing to the City of New Orleans' One Stop Shop:

- 1) Name and date of the local civic or community event or occasion, business or hospital district, or educational institution being promoted
- 2) Desired location for banner installation
- 3) Banner specifications
- 4) A copy of the proposed banner design
- 5) Requested duration for banner display
- 6) Name and contact details of contractor
- 7) Fee (\$125 per streetlight pole)
- 8) Copy of general liability insurance in the amount of \$1,000,000, naming the City of New Orleans as an additional insured
- 9) Any other information that may be required
- 10) Execution of a Hold Harmless Agreement

Use of City Property

The use of City-owned streetlight poles through the Streetlight Banner Program is a privilege that the City is proud to offer. The City maintains the right to reject any application for the use of its property if the proposed banner will not raise awareness of or promote an event or occasion that has a direct and substantial local civic or community benefit, is not public, or will not benefit the citizens of New Orleans. The City reserves a right of first refusal to use its property for City-sponsored banners at any time. In the event City use conflicts with an approved application, the applicant will be afforded either alternative dates, or a prorated refund of the fee and the opportunity to re-apply.

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Applicants are on notice that during certain special events, the City may invoke Clean Zone regulations and during such time, the Clean Zone regulations will supersede the provisions of these Rules.

Location

Reservations for specific locations may be made up to six months in advance.

(Please note that banners placed on streetlight poles within the Downtown Development District (“DDD”) must additionally be approved by the DDD. <http://downtownnola.com>.)

Duration

Banners may be displayed for a maximum of 60 consecutive days. The City is authorized to dispose of banners not removed at the expiration of the permit at a cost to the permittee. Banners for a designated event, occasion or district may not be displayed more than once in a six month period. The City may grant extensions for limited purposes, including for the purpose of promoting events that receive public funding or districts that have a direct and substantial civic or community benefit. The City may require disposal of banners that show extensive wear and tear and/or banners that are damaged.

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Review and Approval

Banners must be submitted for content review with the application no later than 45 days prior to the requested installation date. Please provide either an exact replica or a scaled image that depicts the banner design and content. Content for any purpose other than promotion of a civic community event or occasion, business or hospital district, or educational institution is prohibited. Sponsor names and logos are allowed. Banners may only display corporate/sponsor logos or similar endorsements if such logo or endorsement is not the dominant element in the composition of the banner. The City reserves the right to reject banner content if it will not raise awareness of or promote a local event or occasion that has a direct and substantial civic or community benefit, is not public, or will not benefit the citizens of New Orleans.

Banner Installation

Installation of the banners is the responsibility of the permittees. Banners must be installed according to the City's specifications set forth below. Banners not installed per City specification and/or deemed to be a public safety hazard will be removed, and the cost of the removal will be the permittee's responsibility. Any contractor hired for the installation of banners shall have safety, railway, and electrical certifications if such banners are being installed upon fixtures used for operating streetcars.

Banners displayed for the purpose of promoting a hospital district, business district or educational institution should be installed no more than six (6) blocks away in any direction from the district, or institution being promoted. The City retains discretion to allow exceptions to the six (6) block radius guideline. Banners shall not obstruct traffic lights, traffic signs, streetlights, public utility lines, street names and/or parking limitations or impede traffic or transportation.

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Specifications

Banners may be up to 24” wide and 60” tall. All banners must be vented. If the streetlight poles requested do not have banner brackets, the applicant must supply and install the brackets. Brackets may be made of stainless steel, galvanized steel, or aluminum. The applicant is responsible for the design and fabrication of banners. Banners that do not meet the design specifications will not be permitted to be installed.

Maintenance

The permittee will be responsible for the maintenance, replacement, and upkeep of banners while installed on the City of New Orleans’ streetlight poles. The City shall not be responsible for loss or damage to banners from any cause.

Streetlight Damage Liability

The permittee will be responsible for all costs to repair damages to the street lights caused by installation, while installed, and removal of the banners on the City of New Orleans street light poles.

Fees

The City requires a fee of \$125 per streetlight pole, per City Code Section 134-85(9).

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Notification of Approval

If approved, the City will issue a permit to the applicant no later than 15 days prior to requested date of installation. The City will notify the applicant of any scheduling or location conflicts upon initial review of the application. For a permit to be valid, it must be signed by the City.

Cancellations and Refunds

An application may be cancelled at any time, but the applicant's fee will be refunded only if the application is cancelled at least 14 business days prior to installation.

Revocable Permit

The permit will be revocable at any time if the City determines that the banner does not fulfill the purpose of the City's Streetlight Banner Program or may be unsafe. Should the permit be revoked, the permittee shall remove its banners from the streetlight poles. If the permittee fails to remove its banners as directed, the City or its contractors may remove the permittee's banners; in this case, the permittee shall be responsible for all costs incurred by the City or its contractors in removing the banners. Furthermore, if the permit is revoked, the City shall not be liable for any costs of whatever nature incurred or suffered by the permittee or anyone else arising from the revocation of the permit.