

CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH EXPRESSIVE ACTIVITIES POLICY

- A. People may gather at the Civic Center and on sidewalks, parks, and the Manhattan Beach Pier for the purpose of expression, dissemination, or communication of opinion, views, or ideas by any means, including, but not limited to, public oratory and the distribution of literature protected by the First Amendment to the United States Constitution (“Expressive Activities”), on any day and at any time without a permit and without being subject to any city fees or charges. People gathering for such purposes shall comply with all state laws and City ordinances and regulations, including traffic and pedestrian laws, amplified sound regulations and park reservation regulations, except as indicated below.
- B. As used in this policy, the following words shall have the meanings set forth in this section unless the context clearly requires a different meaning.
1. “Civic Center”: that area generally bounded by 15th Street on the north, Valley Drive on the east, 13th Street on the south, and Highland Avenue on the west.
 2. “Expressive activity”: conduct, of which the sole or principal object is the expression, dissemination, or communication of opinion, views, or ideas by any means; including, but not limited to, public oratory and the distribution of literature protected by the First Amendment to the United States Constitution.
 3. “Park”: all City owned or operated parks, with the exception of parquettes, skate parks, the Greenbelt, and Sand Dune Park.
 4. “Pier”: that certain pier owned by the State which extends westerly into the Pacific Ocean at the foot of Manhattan Beach Boulevard.
 5. “Sidewalk”: a public sidewalk or paved pedestrian path or walkway specifically designed for pedestrian travel.
 6. “Spontaneous Event”: any event involving expressive activity that is occasioned by news or affairs coming into public knowledge within five days of the event.
- C. Any participant in an Expressive Activities event who intends to use sound amplifying equipment shall file an application with the Chief of Police pursuant to Manhattan Beach Municipal Code Section 5.48.150 at least 10 days prior to the date on which the sound amplifying equipment is to be used, with the following exception: organizers of a Spontaneous Event intending to use sound amplifying

equipment shall apply for such permit as soon as possible after the Spontaneous Event is scheduled but in no event later than 24 hours prior to the event.