

## City of Raleigh Film and Photography Guidelines

### Who needs a permit?

Film or photography productions that use City streets, sidewalks, greenways, parks, or any other City property or facility MAY require a permit. Below are guidelines to help clarify current City policies\*. When in doubt, please contact our office at [specialevents@raleighnc.gov](mailto:specialevents@raleighnc.gov) or 919-996-2200. \*City film and photography policies will be updated spring-summer 2016.

### Film and Photography on Streets and Sidewalks

Commercial film or photography productions taking place on public streets or sidewalks that have any of the following characteristics will require a permit issued through the Special Events Office:

- Partial or full blockade of any street, sidewalk, alleyway, or public park trail
- Reserved use of City parks or other public spaces
- Road closures
- Amplified noise or other loud sounds prohibited by Raleigh City Code
- Requires the reservation of public parking spaces
- Production has a significant impact on the community's day-to-day operations
- Involves disruptive or alarming special effects, lighting, technical equipment, or props
- Requires infrastructure set-up on City property

### Filming and Photography in Parks

Any commercial film or photography productions taking place in a City of Raleigh Park will require a film permit. If your film or photography production in a park can be classified as "low-impact" (see below for list of characteristics) you can apply for an annual film permit directly through the Parks and Recreation Department. Their deadlines, fees, and restrictions may differ from those listed in this guide. Contact: Pam Rose, 919-996-4826, [pam.rose@raleighnc.gov](mailto:pam.rose@raleighnc.gov). Any commercial film or photography production taking place in a City of Raleigh Park that is not by definition "low-impact" will require permitting through the Special Events Office. Follow the application instructions within this guide.

### Low-Impact Productions

If ALL of the below characteristics apply to your production, and your production takes place on public streets or sidewalks, your production will not require a permit. For filming or photography in parks, see above.

- No disruption of day-to-day operations of community and other permitted activities
- Uninterrupted flow of pedestrian and vehicular traffic
- Production may not blockade any street, sidewalk, alleyway, or public park trail
- Minimal number of persons in cast and crew
- No exclusive use of City Property
- Produce no amplified sound or other prohibited noises as outlined in Raleigh City Code
- Involves no disruptive or alarming special effects
- No lighting, or minimal lighting used
- Minimal camera equipment
- All production staff must follow all vehicular and pedestrian laws at all times

