

PLAY STREETS: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT IS A "PLAY STREET"?

It's just what it sounds like. With a free permit, you can temporarily close your street to traffic so that you and your neighbors can go out and play in the street. Play streets provide more space for kids (and adults) to play and be physically active.

WHO CAN HOST A PLAY STREET?

Anyone can! Play streets can be hosted by neighbors, schools, or community groups.

CAN MY STREET BE A PLAY STREET?

Almost any non-arterial street can be a play street. A play street cannot be longer than one block and cannot include an intersection.

HOW OFTEN CAN I TURN MY STREET INTO A PLAY STREET?

The frequency depends on the location and your needs and interests. At most, you can have a play street three days per week for six hours per day.

IS THERE A SEASON FOR PLAY STREETS? WHEN DOES MY PERMIT EXPIRE?

Yes, play street applications will be issued in two seasons to account for changes in school scheduling and amount of daylight. The summer season runs from April through September, and the winter season runs from October through March.

WHO DO I HAVE TO INFORM ABOUT HOSTING A PLAY STREET?

If you are organizing a play street, it is your responsibility to notify all of the neighbors on your block—either in person or with a written notice. Don't forget to include your contact information if you leave a written notice!

HOW DO I STOP CARS FROM DRIVING DOWN MY PLAY STREET?

SDOT will give you 2 signs to post at either end of your block to identify the play street. It's up to you to come up with other physical barriers, such as chairs, trash cans, or cones. (We've created a helpful diagram to give you more information.) Anything that temporarily blocks vehicles from entering the street will work as a barricade.

DOES A PLAY STREET NEED TO BE SUPERVISED?

Yes, the organizer of the play street needs to make sure that there is adult supervision at all barricades throughout the event.

CAN I USE MY DRIVEWAY/ACCESS MY HOUSE DURING PLAY STREET HOURS?

Yes, local access through the street is allowed. A supervisor or chaperone can move the street barricades so you can get your vehicle in and out of the street.

CAN MY CAR BE PARKED ON THE STREET DURING A PLAY STREET?

Yes, your car can be parked on the street. If you do not want cars parked on the street during your play street, you must rent temporary "No Parking" signs (that must be placed 72 hours in advance of your play street). You can rent these signs from a number of local companies. More information about "No Parking" signs and requirements is available [here](#).

DO I HAVE TO TURN IN A NEW PERMIT APPLICATION EVERY TIME I WANT TO HOST A PLAY STREET?

No, not if you put all of the information about your recurring play street on your permit application. When you fill out the application, you'll need to indicate the starting date of your first play street, how often you'd like to host a play street (e.g., every Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.), and the date of your final play street.

WHO PAYS FOR THE PLAY STREET?

Hosting a play street is free! The organizer is responsible for arranging and funding any activities that happen during the play street. If you're interested in grant funding to help buy equipment for your play street (e.g., hula hoops, jump ropes, chalk), you can apply to the [Department of Neighborhoods' Small Sparks fund](#).

