



## Seattle Special Events Committee Votes to Extend the Suspension of Special Event Permits Through April 30, 2021

The Seattle Special Events Committee has voted to extend an administrative decision to suspend the issuance of Special Event Permits through April 30, 2021 due to COVID-19. This extension will go into effect immediately.

On January 8, 2021, Governor Inslee issued the [“Healthy Washington” State recovery plan](#), which implements a phased approach for reopening by region. At this time, the Puget Sound Region remains in Phase One, where large unrestricted indoor and outdoor public gatherings are prohibited.

This decision only applies to events in Seattle that require permits through the Special Event Permit process. A Special Event Permit is not required for stadium events, events contained on Seattle Center Campus, most events in Seattle Parks, business extension permits issued by SDOT, or marches/rallies involving fewer than 50 people that are confined to sidewalks.

The Special Events Committee is currently accepting and will review Special Event Permit applications for events taking place after April 30, 2021. The Committee may consider applications that meet current State, City, and regional conditions under the current [“Healthy Washington” State recovery plan phases](#).

The Committee continues to work with regional, national, and international stakeholders and agencies to develop processes, tools and resources that event organizers and producers can use to incorporate forthcoming State and public health requirements in their event planning.

The Special Events Committee is the 21-member group of City, County, State, and event professional safety and planning agencies and organizations that reviews and approves major Seattle events permitted through the Special Event Permit process. This permitting process requires a minimum of 90 days. Due to the ongoing spread of COVID-19, and the related uncertainty of when and how major events may be allowed in the State’s phased reopening approach that protects residents’ health, the committee voted to extend the suspension of issuing permits through April 30, 2021.

This suspension may be extended further due to developing public health measures implemented by local and State health officials, and the availability of City resources to provide services to support events. The City of Seattle continues to monitor developments from the Governor’s office, and guidance from Public Health - Seattle & King County, the Washington Department of Health, and the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention regarding COVID-19, including Governor Inslee’s recent guidelines allowing limited capacity run/walk/ride events. For more information please refer to [seattle.gov/special-events-office](http://seattle.gov/special-events-office) for updates.

Chris Swenson, Chair  
Seattle Special Events Committee