Block Parties

Details on creating and running your own block party

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How To Block Party

Hosting a block party in Portland, Oregon, is a great way to build community and enjoy your neighborhood. Here's a step-by-step guide to help you plan your event: portland.gov

1. **Check Eligibility**: Ensure your street is classified as a "Local Service Traffic" street and is not part of a bus or transit route. You can verify this using PBOT's Transportation System Plan street classification map.
2. **Apply for a Permit**: Submit a Block Party Permit application at least 15 business days before your event. The application is free and can be completed online.
3. **Notify Neighbors**: Inform all residents on the block at least two days before the event. You can use the Block Party notification flyer provided by PBOT or create your own with the same information.
4. **Arrange Barricades**: Set up barricades at both ends of the street to ensure safety. For streets not adjacent to arterial roads, you may use household items like garbage bins marked with retroreflective tape during daylight hours. For closures extending into dusk or evening, Type 2 or 3 barricades with flashing lights are required.
5. **Plan Event Details**: Ensure the event is free and open to the public. Private events are not allowed under the Block Party permit. The event should take place between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m., not exceeding 8 hours per week.
6. **Consider Additional Permits**: If your event includes amplified sound, alcohol, or other special activities, you may need additional permits from the City of Portland. For example, a noise variance permit is required for amplified music.
7. **Set Up and Clean Up**: Follow the traffic control plan provided with your permit for setting up and taking down barricades and signs. Ensure the street is reopened for regular use by the designated time.

For more detailed information and to access application forms, visit the City of Portland's official Block Party Permit page.