

**Proposed Repeal and Replacement of
SCC 9.08 – OUTDOOR PUBLIC MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENTS,
AMUSEMENTS, AND ASSEMBLIES with Chapter 9.08 SINGLE OUTDOOR
EVENTS**

July 1, 2026 DRAFT

Chapter 9.08 SINGLE OUTDOOR EVENTS

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9.08.010 Purpose.

(1) Regulations for single outdoor events are intended to protect and preserve the public peace, health, safety, and general welfare by establishing rules, regulations, and conditions that ensure the safety of attendees and participants, and by ensuring that impacts to roads, traffic, and neighboring properties are properly mitigated.

9.08.020 Definitions.

(1) “Single outdoor events” are public outdoor events that are not part of any regularly permitted operations under Title 14. This definition does not apply to events held at permitted restaurants, churches, grange halls, community centers, or parks, nor does it apply to private gatherings such as family events, private parties, or one-time private weddings.

9.08.030 Applicability, Size, and Frequency.

(1) Permits for single outdoor events are required for events that reasonably anticipate more than 50 people in attendance.

(2) Types. There are two types of single outdoor events based on the number of attendees:

- (a) Small Single Outdoor Events. Small Single Outdoor Events are events that can reasonably expect 200 or fewer people in attendance per day.

(b) Medium Single Outdoor Events. Medium Single Outdoor Events are events that can reasonably expect 200 or more people in attendance per day.

(c) Large Single Outdoor Events. Single Outdoor Events are events that can reasonably expect 1,000 or more people in attendance per day.

(3) Frequency. A permit for single outdoor events may not be issued to the same applicant or location for more than three consecutive days and for no more than two occasions per calendar year.

9.08.040 Permit Application—Procedure.

(1) Small and Medium Single Outdoor Events Procedures.

(a) Applications for Small and Medium Single Outdoor Events must be submitted to Skagit County Planning and Development Services 90 or more days prior to the first day of the event.

(b) A determination shall be made by Skagit County Planning and Development Services within 60 days after complete application submittal for a Small or Medium Single Outdoor Event.

(2) Large Outdoor Events Procedures.

(a) Applications for Large Single Outdoor Events must be submitted to Skagit County Planning and Development Services 120 or more days prior to the first day of the event.

(b) A determination shall be made by Skagit County Planning and Development Services within 90 days after complete application submittal for a Large Single Outdoor Event.

(c) Public comment. A 15-day public comment period is required for Large Outdoor Events.

(i) The 15-day public comment must begin within 14-days of the application being determined complete.

(ii) Planning and Development Services must advertise and allow the submission of public comments for the 15-day comment period.

(iii) The comment period may not begin until a notice advertising the comment period is issued.

(iv) The Planning and Development Services must accept comments both electronically (in a manner prescribed by the Department) and on paper.

(A) All comments must reference the application number.

(B) Paper comments must be submitted on standard letter-sized paper in black and white and must be received by the deadline.

(C) Planning and Development Services may decline to consider comments that do not comply with these standards.

(v) Within seven days after the end of the public comment period, the Department must transmit to the applicant a copy of public comments timely received in response to the notice of application, together with a statement that the applicant may submit a written response to

the comments and has the option to suspend review of the application while the applicant formulates that response.

(vi) Planning and Development Services must read and consider relevant public comments that comply with this Section.

(d) Public notices and Notice of Application. Public notice of a Notice of Application is required for Large Outdoor Events.

(i) Planning and Development Services will distribute the Notice of Application by:

(A) Publication on the Department's website;

(B) Publication in the County's official newspaper;

(C) Electronic mail or first-class mail to all neighbors within 300 feet of any parcel that the event is proposed to take place.

(D) One notice board must be erected on or near the subject property on each public or private road that abuts the property, or as otherwise directed by the Department for maximum visibility. Posting of notice boards must be consistent with SCC 14.06.320(3)(b)-(d).

(ii) A Notice of Application must include all of the following:

(A) The application number;

(B) The name of the applicant;

(C) Identification of the location of the event, by address if available;

(D) An objective description of the proposed event;

(E) Due date for public comments.

9.08.050 Application Submittal Requirements.

(1) An application for a single outdoor event permit is considered complete when the Planning and Development Services department has received the following:

(a) A fully completed and signed application form for the permit which includes;

(i) The name and address of the applicant, and, in the event that the applicant is a partnership, joint venture, corporation, or other association, the names and addresses of all persons having an interest in the entity;

(ii) Property street address and parcel number(s);

(iii) An event narrative which includes:

(A) Date(s) and time(s) of the event;

(B) The number of people expected to attend and the greatest number of people who will be permitted at the event;

(B) The number of employees;

(C) A description of the event and any activities that may generate noise, light, glare, vibrations, or any other disturbing activity;

(D) Evidence of adequate water supply, onsite sewage or sewer, and plan for solid waste handling.

(iv) A site plan which includes buildings used for the event, tent locations, toilet locations, parking plan, ingress/egress points, and emergency vehicle access.

(b) All applicable review fees;

(c) Agent Authorization Form, if a representative of the property owner is applying on their behalf;

(d) Acknowledgement that the applicant will abide by the provisions of this chapter and any other applicable federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, and regulations;

9.08.060 Event Requirements and Conditions.

(1) **Sanitary Facilities.** The applicant shall provide the following sanitary facilities consistent with all Skagit County Title 12 Health, Welfare, and Sanitation requirements and the laws of the State of Washington:

(a) **Drinking Water.** Evidence of adequate water supply consistent with SCC Title 12 is required for all events. If adequate water supply is not available, bottled water may be used as an alternative. A Group A water system is required for events anticipating attendance of 1,000 or more people for two or more consecutive days per WAC 246-290-020.

(b) **Onsite Sewage and Sewer.** Events must provide toilet facilities consistent with SCC Title 12 and all applicable state laws. Portable toilets equipped with handwashing stations may be used to meet these requirements, subject to Public Health approval.

(c) **Solid Waste Handling Standards.** All events are required to provide solid waste facilities consistent with SCC Title 12.

(2) **Food Service.** Food service provided at any event must comply with SCC Title 12. Any person operating a food service establishment must have a valid permit from the Skagit County Public Health Department.

(3) **Fire Protection.** All activities associated with the event shall meet the requirements of the International Fire Code in effect at the time of the event. A Fire Marshal inspection may be required. Requirements from the fire code may include, but are not limited to:

(a) Emergency vehicle access.

(b) Fire protection equipment requirements.

(c) Temporary structure requirements.

(d) A public safety plan which may require first aid on site.

(e) Other temporary safety measures.

(4) **Traffic and Crowd Control.** For Medium and Large Single Outdoor events, the applicant shall provide the necessary personnel, equipment, and facilities to ensure proper traffic control and crowd control. Traffic and crowd control measures include the following:

- (a) Traffic and crowd control plans are subject to review by Skagit County Public Works and the Skagit County Sheriff.
 - (b) The applicant shall provide a minimum of two qualified traffic and crowd control personnel for every 200 attendees. These personnel must remain on duty at all times while patrons are on the event grounds, as well as during arrival and departure periods.
 - (c) If alcoholic beverages are served at the event, the applicant must provide professional security services or, when available, policing services from the Skagit County Sheriff.
 - (d) Additional traffic and crowd control measures may be required by Skagit County Public Works and the Skagit County Sheriff's office depending on the nature of each event.
- (5) **Parking.** Parking is required to be provided for all guests and event staff and may not include the use of any road right-of-way, but may be located off site. One parking space is required for every three guests.
- (6) **Lighting.** Artificial lighting must use full cut-off fixtures so that direct light from high intensity lamps will not result in glare. Lighting must be directed away from adjoining properties so that no more than one foot-candle of illumination leaves the property boundaries.
- (7) **Noise.** Noise generated by events must comply with SCC 14.20.060. The County may impose additional conditions on the use of amplified sound or other noise-generating activities as necessary.
- (8) **Natural Resource Land Preservation.** Facilities used for the event cannot result in permanent conversion of Natural Resource Lands in Natural Resource Lands zones listed in SCC 14.13.

9.08.070 Grounds for Denial.

- (1) An event permit may be denied or revoked if Skagit County reasonably determines that:
- (a) The proposed event is not consistent with the standards of SCC 9.08.
 - (b) The application submittal requirements have not been met.
 - (c) The proposed event would endanger public health or safety.
 - (d) The time, route, hours, location, or size of the proposed event will unnecessarily disrupt the movement of other traffic within the area.
 - (e) The event would create or constitute a public nuisance.
 - (f) The event would engage in or encourage participants to engage in illegal acts.
 - (g) The location of the special event would cause undue hardship for adjacent businesses or residents.

9.08.080 Enforcement.

- (1) Noncompliance with this section will be subject to enforcement as applicable in Skagit County Code.

9.08.090 Severability.

If any section of this Chapter or its application to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the remainder of this Chapter, or the application of the Section to other persons or circumstances is not affected.