

Hey Y'all!

I'm here in Austin! Unfortunately Taco Time planned their event based on common "myths" they heard about permits during SXSW. Find the "myths" in this party and get the facts to make sure your event will be successful!

Willie



To: Event Organizers Austin, Texas, and beyond



PERMIT MYTHS

During SXSW

1. "I thought my venue's capacity automatically increases during SXSW?"

Venues are given Official Occupant Load Cards from the Austin Fire Department (AFD), which are reviewed annually during their Public Assembly Inspection. Some venues by request have been given 2 separate load cards; one for fixed seating and one for standing room only. These are the only 2 official documents allowed that determine a venue's occupant load and do not increase during SXSW.

2. "I don't need a permit to serve alcohol for free at my event."

It is legally possible to serve alcohol at a temporary event without a permit; however, TABC has rules that must be followed in order for alcohol to be considered free. There can be no fee of any kind associated with the alcohol, such as fees associated with food if alcohol is served with a meal, admission fees, or tip jar for servers. For more information on TABC laws, rules and regulations, visit <https://www.tabc.state.tx.us/>.

3. "I can have outdoor music until 2am during SXSW."

Outdoor Music Venues can have outdoor amplified sound until 2am if their current permit allows it. Outdoor Music Venues with standard hours of amplified sound can apply for extended hours during SXSW. All temporary events will follow standard hours and will not receive extended hours. To apply for extended hours, go to www.atxmusic.org and click the Venues tab.

4. "I can use the sidewalk for queuing lines, and am not responsible for what goes on outside of an event."

Austin Center for Events requires a queuing plan to ensure that ADA compliance is met along with ensuring that there is no overflow affecting the Right-of-Way.

5. "I heard I can't get a sound permit for hosting an event in a parking lot."

A multi-day sound permit may be issued for a parking lot event if the lot is leased by an adjacent commercial structure. If it's not, the event would be limited to a 24-hour sound permit.

6. "My temporary stage is less than 30" in height, so I don't need a building permit."

A building permit is required for temporary structures that are over 120 sq. ft. and house more than 10 people. The 30" height rule is for the requirement of guardrails.