



Council Policy

Outdoor Events Policy



Outdoor Events Policy

Policy scope

This Policy applies to all privately managed Large and Major scale events held at designated Council managed outdoor event venues.

This policy does not apply to the following:

- Low and Medium scale events;
- Council-managed events;
- Street events including community street parties, neighbourhood gatherings, processions, street festivals, triathlons, or fun runs;
- Ongoing markets (where a lease or licence has been issued by Council);
- Designated sporting games held at Fremantle Oval.

Policy statement

The City recognises events as a key driver of Fremantle's visitor economy and as an essential contributor to the city's identity and prosperity. Events are expected to align with and promote Fremantle's values of vibrancy, creativity, and diversity, while showcasing the city's unique character. In supporting Fremantle's reputation as the home of live music in Western Australia and as a centre for arts and cultural festivals, events should attract a broad range of audiences, encourage overnight visitation, and contribute to both community and economic outcomes.

Events generate economic activity that supports existing businesses, encourages new business growth, attracts residents, and contributes to cultural development. By providing engaging, inclusive, and accessible experiences, events also strengthen community connection and help maintain Fremantle's role as a recognised destination for arts, culture, and entertainment.

The City is responsible for attracting events and for facilitating and administering the approval process for all events held on land owned or managed by Council.

1. Strategic Objectives

The attraction and approval of events in Fremantle will be guided by the following objectives:

- Celebrate Fremantle's identity by supporting events that showcase the city's spirit, vibrancy, and brand while driving visitation.



- Attract high-value events that deliver significant social, cultural, and economic benefits to the community.
- Foster diversity and inclusion by providing access to a broad mix of arts, cultural, sporting, and entertainment experiences across the municipality.
- Strengthen community connection by encouraging participation in shared, enjoyable experiences that build belonging and inclusivity.
- Fremantle offers a year-round calendar of events that celebrates its unique character and culture, attracts visitors, and is embraced by the community.

2. Standards for Events

The City requires all events to:

- Align with the City's strategic objectives and this policy.
- Comply with all relevant legislation, regulations, Council policies, and procedures.
- Contribute positively to Fremantle's reputation and identity as a destination city.
- Provide patron pass-outs, unless community impacts are assessed to outweigh the benefits of doing so.
- Engage with adjoining businesses where reasonable and take practicable steps to manage the impacts of the event on local businesses.
- Refrain from promoting tobacco or gambling.
- Adhere to the City of Fremantle Policy – Fossil Fuel Advertising and Sponsorships.
- Exclude the use of exotic (non-domesticated) animals and prohibit any activity involving cruelty to animals.

3. Outdoor Event Venues

The following outdoor event venues are classified as Gold, Silver, or Bronze, based on their suitability to host events.

Gold venues – Highly sensitive locations that can host a maximum of two large or major impact events per year. Their popularity stems from their size or location, but events here can significantly affect residents or restrict public amenity.

Silver venues – Suitable for up to five large or major impact events per year. These sites have a moderate community impact, with fewer nearby residents, and are valued for their capacity to support regular activations.

Bronze venues – Not suitable for large or major impact events but well-placed to host small to medium events on a regular basis.



Large and major impact events can affect surrounding residents and businesses. To minimise these impacts, the number of such events permitted at each venue is limited each year, as outlined below.

Outdoor event venues	Annual event allocation
Gold Locations	
South Beach	No Major events, maximum of two Large impact events
Fremantle Park	Maximum of two Major or two Large impact events
Silver Locations	
Esplanade Reserve	Maximum of one Major and up to four Large impact events
Fremantle Oval	Maximum of one Major and up to four Large impact events
Walyalup Koort	No Major events, maximum of two Large impact events
Port Beach	No Major events, maximum of two Large impact events
Bronze Locations	
Bathers Beach	No Major or Large impact events
Booyeembara Park	No Major or Large impact events
Leighton Beach	No Major or Large impact events
Pioneer Park	No Major or Large impact events
Port Beach & North Carpark	No Major or Large impact events
Princess May Park	No Major or Large impact events
Wilson Park	No Major or Large impact events
Bruce Lee Oval	No Major or Large impact events
Hilton Park	No Major or Large impact events

All outdoor event venues are eligible to host small to medium impact events, subject to compliance with the City's event approval conditions.

The scheduling and frequency of events will be managed in accordance with the following principles:



1. No more than one event will ordinarily be approved at the same venue on a given day.
2. Scheduling will seek to achieve an appropriate balance between event activity and recreational use.
3. Sufficient intervals will be maintained between events to enable venue rehabilitation and upkeep.

In determining event approvals, the City will consider the frequency and timing of events to ensure that:

- Events are distributed across the calendar year wherever feasible.
- The proposed event is suitable for the venue.
- The venue is available and capable of accommodating the event.

If the overall benefits to the community are considered to outweigh any potential adverse impacts, the CEO may approve events outside of the scope of these principles.

4. Event Categories

Event applications are assessed on the basis of their scale and characteristics and are classified into defined categories.

Applications for events assessed as Small or Medium will be managed in accordance with the established event approval process.

Event Detail	Large Impact Event	Major Impact Event
Attendees	5,000 - 9,999 attendees	Greater than 10,000 attendees
Duration	Up to eight hours, single day, single event site	Up to ten hours, single or multiple event days, multiple event sites
Bump in/out days	Up to five bump in/out days	Up to ten bump in/out days
Timings	Held between 7am and 10pm	Held between 7am and 12am
Noise impact	May involve amplified noise / Reg 18 may be required.	May involve amplified noise / Reg 18 may be required.



	Max noise level at 30m from stage – 98dB(a) laeq5min 110dB(c) laeq5min	Max noise level at 30m from stage – 100dB(a) laeq5min, 110dB(c) laeq5min
Pyrotechnics	May involve pyrotechnics	May involve pyrotechnics
Infrastructure	May involve significant infrastructure build	May involve significant infrastructure build
Power	May involve power requirements	May involve power requirements
Vehicle movements	May require significant levels of infrastructure or vehicle access on site	May require significant levels of infrastructure or vehicle access on site
Public transport disruption	May involve minor public transport disruptions	May impact public transport
Road closures	May involve minor road closures or impact normal use of roads	May require road closures or impact normal use of roads
Food sales	May involve food sales	May involve food sales
Liquor license	May be licensed	May be licensed

5. Keeping Residents and Businesses Informed

Where the event organiser's use of the outdoor event venue causes or is likely to cause an impact to local businesses or residents, whether actual or perceived, the organiser may be required to:

- Provide written notification to affected residents and businesses within the immediate vicinity of the venue, outlining key event details such as road closures, bump-in and bump-out times, event hours, and sound checks.
- Conduct a resident or business briefing, if requested by City officers, to address significant potential impacts.
- Publish a notice in local newspapers with relevant event information, including traffic management and scheduling details.



- Ensure the event website clearly displays event-day contact numbers and road closure information in an accessible format.
- Participate in a consultation process for events outside the scope of this policy. Council will consider the proposed management measures and outcomes of consultation prior to granting approval.
- Notify local community members, key authorities, and stakeholders to gather feedback and mitigate potential adverse impacts.

Definitions and abbreviations

Event - Any organised activity or function where people are brought together at a given time and place for entertainment, recreation, cultural or community purposes.

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