



Dear Visitor:

The attached Policy for Public Expression at Navy Pier and the Headlands will provide you with information on the procedures to follow in order to obtain the appropriate permit for public expression and leafleting at Navy Pier and Gateway Park.

Permit applications should be submitted by mail or hand delivered to the Administrative Office at:

Navy Pier
Attn: Public Relations
600 E. Grand Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60611

Or via facsimile transmission to (312) 595-5091. Detailed information regarding this process is included in the policy on pages 6 and 7.

If you have questions please call 312-595-5031 during normal business hours, Monday – Friday, from 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

The Guest Services Desk at Navy Pier is NOT responsible for ensuring the proper delivery of the application to the Administrative Office.

Thank you for your interest.

Sincerely,
Navy Pier Public Relations

POLICY FOR PUBLIC EXPRESSION AT NAVY PIER AND THE HEADLANDS

This Policy applies to individuals and groups who seek to engage, free of charge, in non-commercial expressive activities at Navy Pier and in the Headlands area, which includes Gateway Park and the walkways leading to Navy Pier. Any persons or groups wishing to engage in such activities must first obtain a permit from the Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority (the “Authority”), and must confine their activities to certain areas, as described below.

I. FACTUAL FINDINGS AND STATEMENT OF AUTHORITY’S INTERESTS

The Authority is a limited purpose government entity with only those rights and powers granted by Illinois law. 70 ILCS 210/1 et seq. The Authority’s statutory purpose is to develop and operate facilities for conventions, trade shows and exhibitions as well as for commercial, recreational and cultural activities. The Authority currently operates two facilities for those purposes: McCormick Place and Navy Pier.

The Authority’s principle goals include creating and maintaining desirable venues to compete successfully in the international market for conventions, trade shows and exhibitions; attracting visitors Chicago metropolitan area and Illinois; providing Chicagoland residents and tourists with a place for fun and relaxation; and generating economic activity, jobs and business opportunities for Illinois residents. By attracting visitors to the City and State, the Authority’s convention and trade show activities at McCormick Place and Navy Pier provide significant benefits to the economies of both the City of Chicago and the State of Illinois, and produce substantial local and state tax revenues. The Continued viability of Navy Pier as an attractive and financially successful commercial venture and tourist destination is of paramount importance to the Authority and the State of Illinois.

To serve these goals, the Authority developed Navy Pier into a commercial, entertainment and tourist venue that is unique in the Midwest. The Pier’s attractions and amenities include numerous restaurants and shops; the Chicago Children’s Museum; an IMAX theater; commercial passenger boats; an indoor botanical garden called the Crystal Gardens; the Skyline Stage; Pier Park, which contains a Ferris wheel, carousel, and wading pool/ice skating rink; Festival Hall, a convention, trade show and meeting facility; the Shelter and Terminal Buildings, which are historical structures housing meeting and facilities and the Grand Ballroom; and the South Dock, an outdoor promenade with concessions and entertainment that runs along the Pier’s south side. Immediately across the street from the Pier’s main entrance is Gateway Park, which the Authority maintains pursuant to long-term agreement with the City of Chicago.

In authorizing the Authority to develop and operate Navy Pier, the legislature provided the Authority with no operating funds. Rather, it intended that the Authority would manage Navy Pier so that revenues would cover all operating expenses. The Authority earns revenues from fees charged for long-term leases and short-term licenses; from a percentage share of tenants’ sales; from food, beverage and other service charges charged

to short-term licensees of space at the Pier; and from parking fees paid by those who park at the Pier.

Maintaining a high volume of visitors is essential to the Pier's financial survival. The Pier has succeeded in becoming one of the top-ranked destinations for leisure and cultural activities in the Chicagoland Area. If the Volume of visitors were to decline, current tenants that offer goods and services to visitors would be less likely to renew their leases or licenses, or to achieve sales levels entitling the Pier to a percentage of their revenues. In addition, prospective commercial tenants would be less likely to lease or license space, or to pay the prevailing rates for such a space.

The Authority has a substantial financial interest in maintaining the pier as an attractive destination for the Chicagoland residents and visitors alike, and in avoiding disruption of the commercial and entertainment activities taking place at the Pier. The Authority strives to ensure that visitors encounter a fun, pleasant atmosphere conducive to shopping, dining, and other recreational options provided by our tenants. To this end, the Authority engages in promotional activities, regulates its tenants, and manages its leasing and licensing of space on the Pier so as to attract the public to the Pier and promote a fun, family-oriented environment that ensures the success of the pier's rent paying tenants—and therefore the success of the Pier itself. The Authority also has a substantial interest in maintaining a free and orderly flow of traffic on Navy Pier. The pier poses unique emergency and crowd control challenges because it is a long narrow structure bounded on three sides by water with only three egress points at one of its narrow ends. Given this configuration, and given that as many 85000 people visit navy Pier on a crowded day, the Authority has a substantial interest in managing all the activities on the pier so as to avoid threats to the health and safety of pier visitors and employees.

Navy Pier has been judicially determined to be a non-public forum. The Authority intends to maintain the Pier as a non-public forum, prohibiting picketing, demonstrations, marches, solicitations of the signatures or contributions, and other similar forms of public expression of views. The Authority finds that allowing such activities to occur on the Pier would make it substantially less attractive as a tourist destination, discourage visitors from returning, adversely impact the business of the Pier and its tenants, and pose significant public safety dangers in light of the Pier's physical configuration. Pursuant to the Seventh Circuit's decision in *ACORN v. Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority*, 150 F.3d695 (7th Cir. 1998), this Policy expressly allows non disruptive leafleting at certain locations on the Pier, notwithstanding the continued designation of those locations as non public forums.

As currently configured, Gateway Park and South Sidewalk are public forums, which are available for a wide range of expressive activity. This policy sets forth a number of time, place and manner regulations of the use of those areas.

II. RULES AND REGULATIONS

A. Areas for Public Expression

The following areas are available, free of charge, for non-commercial public expressive activity at Navy Pier and the Headlands, pursuant to a valid permit granted by the Authority:

(1) Gateway Park. Picketing marches, demonstrations, solicitation of signatures or contributions and similar forms of public expression of views are permitted in Gateway Park, which is located across the street from the main entrances to Navy Pier.

(2) South Sidewalk. Picketing marches, demonstrations, solicitation of signatures or contributions and similar forms of public expression of views are also allowed on the public sidewalk immediately to the south of the point at which the roadway leading through Navy Pier's south gate bisects the sidewalk (the "South Sidewalk"). Because of this area's close proximity to the Pier's entrances, use of this area may not obstruct or hinder pedestrian or vehicular traffic onto or off of the Pier.

(3) Navy Pier (Leafleting Only). Picketing marches, demonstrations, signing, chanting, solicitation of signatures or contributions and similar forms of public expression of views (including but not limited to waving posters, shouting through bullhorns, soapbox speeches, and the like) are strictly prohibited in any of the public areas of Navy Pier. Non-disruptive leafleting, however, is permitted on Navy Pier in the following designated areas:

- a. Leafleting Area #1 (Indoors) is a 15' by 17' area located next to the first support pillar southeast of the doors between Market Hall and the South Arcade. The zone is in the area between the pillar and the wall to the west of the pillar.
- b. Leafleting Area #2 (Outdoors) consists of two 15' by 24 1/2' areas on South Dock running from the planters at the base of the Grand Staircase to the southern edge of the South Dock walkway. Persons using Zone 2 may stand in either of the two areas, but both may not be occupied at the same time. Persons using this zone may not obstruct pedestrian traffic on Dock Street.
- c. Leafleting Area #3 (Indoors) consists of two areas in Navy Pier's East and West Lobbies. Zone 3A is a 5' by 5' area immediately west of the first pillar south of the doors leading into the West Lobby from the parking areas. Zone 3B is a 12' by 10' area immediately east of the doors leading into the East Lobby from the parking areas. Persons using Zone 3 may stand in either of the two areas, but both may not be occupied at the same time.
- d. Leafleting Area #4 (Outdoors) is a 15' by 30' area on the South Dock, running from the base of the steps outside the Navy Pier Store (at approximately bollard 21) across to the southern edge of the Dock Street walkway. Persons using this zone may not obstruct traffic on Dock Street.
- e. Leafleting Area #5 (Outdoors) is a 15, by 30' area on South Dock, running from the base of the steps outside the western end of the Stained Glass Museum (at approximately bollard 37) across the southern edge of the Dock Street walkway. Persons using this zone may not obstruct traffic on Dock Street.

- f. Leafleting Area #6 (Outdoors) is a 15' by 15' area in the East End Plaza, situated at the base of the steps outside the Grand Ballroom, and to the northwest of the large Gazebo in East End Plaza.

B. Number of Persons Permitted to Engage in Expressive Activity

(1) Gateway Park. While the Authority has no set limits on the numbers of persons who may engage in expressive activity in Gateway Park at a given time, the Authority reserves the right to set such limits if the General Manager determines that the proposed number of participants creates a risk of injury or damage to Navy Pier resources; causes traffic congestion; interferes with activities for which the Authority has granted a lease or license; impairs the operation of Navy Pier facilities; presents an unreasonable to the health or safety of the public or Pier visitors; or otherwise threatens to violate section D(1) of this policy.

(2) South Sidewalk. Because of the space limitations, the Authority permits up to twenty (20) individuals to engage in expressive activity at a time on the South Sidewalk.

(3) Leafleting Areas on Navy Pier. The Authority permits only one person to leaflet in each of the designated Areas, for a total of 6 leafleters (one in each zone) at any given time.

C. Time Periods for Expressive Activity

Persons may engage in non-commercial expressive activity pursuant to this policy in Gateway Park from sunrise to sunset, and on the South Sidewalk and the Leafleting Areas during the hours that the applicable area is open to the general public, as defined in the Navy Pier Rules and Regulations. Navy Pier's operating hours vary by season, and current information on operating hours may be obtained by writing to the Administrative Office at Navy Pier, 600 East Grand Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60611, or by calling the general Manager at (312) 595-5100.

D. Rules Governing Expressive Conduct

(1) Gateway Park and South Sidewalk. Persons engaged in non-commercial expressive activity in Gateway Park and on the South Sidewalk may not:

- Violate any laws, City ordinances or zoning requirements or prohibitions;
- Cause injury or damage to Navy Pier resources or facilities;
- Interfere with ingress or egress of Navy Pier patrons;
- Impair the operation of Navy Pier facilities;
- Endanger the health or safety of the public or Navy Pier patrons;

- Carry or distribute balloons;
- Litter;
- Generate noise through the use of amplified sound devices, such as bullhorns, public address systems, in violation of levels permitted in the City of Chicago Ordinances.
- Affix signs, Literature or other materials to any object, structure, sculpture, or tree on Navy Pier or in Gateway Park;
- Use vehicles or any other wheeled device as part of an expressive activity, with the exception of wheelchairs and other similar motorized devices for those individuals physically requiring such devices;
- Store or leave unattended any boxes or bags of literature or any other materials;
- Erect any table, chair, booth or other structure or physical prop;
- Disseminate obscene materials

(2) Leafleting Areas on Navy Pier. Persons who obtain a permit to use Navy Pier’s designated Leafleting Areas (“Leafleters”) may *only* engage in non disruptive leafleting, and may not engage in other forms of public expression which this Policy prohibits on the Pier. Leafleters must observe all rules applicable to users of gateway Park and South Sidewalk. If a Leafleter requests it, Navy Pier will provide a table for the Leafleter to sit at within the leafleting are. In addition, Leafleters may not:

- Use any voice amplification device (e.g., bullhorns);
- Leaflet outside the designated Leafleting Area;
- Solicit passers-by for contributions or signatures (except that does not prevent a leafleter from handing out material that seeks donations);
- Carry, post or affix signs or placards to any portion of the Pier.

The Authority reserves the right to immediately cancel a permit if the permitted individual(s) or group(s) materially violate any of the foregoing rules. Questions concerning whether an applicant’s proposed conduct would comply with these rules can be directed to the General Manager of Navy Pier at 600 East Grand Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60611.

In addition to the foregoing rules, expressive activity in Gateway Park and South Sidewalk is subject to all of the rules and regulations generally applicable to public parks and sidewalks imposed by the City Of Chicago or the Chicago Park District.

E. Commercial Speech Not Covered By This Policy

This Policy is intended to apply only to non-commercial expressive activity. The distribution of commercial leaflets or other forms of advertising on the Pier is strictly prohibited except as allowed pursuant to a lease or a short-term license obtained from the Authority. See Authority’s Policy for Short-Term Licenses for Space at Navy Pier.

F. Permit Application And Review Criteria

(1) *How to submit the permit application:* A permit to engage in non-commercial expressive activity in the areas described above may be obtained by completing the application attached to this policy. Applications should be submitted by mail or hand delivery to the Administrative Office at Navy Pier 600 East Grand Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60611, or via facsimile transmission to (312) 595-5091. Applications for use of Gateway Park or South Sidewalk by five or more persons must be received by the Authority at least seven days before the day for which the permit is sought. Applications for permits to use Gateway Park or South Sidewalk by less than five persons, and to use the Leafleting Areas, will be accepted by the Authority at any time.

(2) *When a permit will be granted or denied:* The General Manager or his/her authorized designee will grant or deny applications to use Gateway Park or South Sidewalk by five or more persons within three business days after receipt of the application. The General Manager or his/her authorized designee will grant or deny applications to use Gateway Park or South Sidewalk by less than five persons, or to use the Leafleting Areas, one business day after receipt of the application, or upon receipt of a completed application presented in person at the Authority's Administrative Office. Applicants will be notified via facsimile, if available; by telephone or mail; or in person.

(3) *Frequency of applications:* To facilitate open access to the areas for public expression described above by a variety of speakers, each applicant, or individual or group on whose behalf an application is made, may apply for (i) up to two permits a month for use of Gateway Park or South Sidewalk by five or more persons; (ii) up to two permits a week for use of Gateway Park or South Sidewalk by less than five persons; and/or (iii) up to two permits per week for use of the Leafleting Area(s).

(4) *Review criteria:* The Authority grants permit applications on a first-come, first-served basis without reference to content of the message to be expressed. The Authority will deny a permit if the General Manager finds that such activity would (a) violate laws or City ordinances, including but not limited to zoning ordinances; (b) create a risk of injury or damage to Navy Pier resources or facilities; (c) interfere with or impede the flow of pedestrian or vehicular traffic; (d) interfere with other activities for which the Authority has granted a lease, license or permit; (e) impair the operation of Navy Pier facilities; (f) present an unreasonable danger to the health or safety of Navy Pier patrons, Pier employees, the public, or the applicant; or (g) for other similar reasons in accordance with law. In addition, the Authority may deny a permit if the applicant, or the individual or group on whose behalf the application for the permit was made, on prior occasions (h) has made material misrepresentations regarding the nature or scope of an event or activity previously permitted; (i) has violated the terms of prior permits issued to or on the behalf of the applicant; or (j) has damaged Pier property and has not paid in full for such damage, or has outstanding and unpaid debts to the Authority. The Authority may also deny a permit if the application (k) is materially incomplete; (l) contains material misrepresentations; or (m) fails to designate a responsible person for group applicants.

(5) *Terms and Conditions:* If the Authority grants a permit, the applicant must comply with the conditions stated in the permit, including the time, place

and manner of the activity, as well as the rules outlined in this Policy. Permits for Gateway Park and the South Sidewalk may be granted for a period of up to one day and are exclusive, in that a permit reserves one or more such area(s), as requested by the applicant, for the applicant's use during the time period stated in the permit. Depending on the volume of requests, the Authority reserves the right to limit applicants' access to Gateway Park, South Sidewalk and Leafleting Areas to equal time periods of less than one day, in order to accommodate more applications.

(6) *Denials of Permits:* If a permit application is denied, the official denying the application will provide a written explanation of the grounds for denial. If the Authority denies an application because prior permits have been granted for a particular day, the Authority will offer the applicant the opportunity to request an alternative date for the same place.

(7) *Appeal of Denials:* Applicants may appeal a permit denial by sending a letter to the Chief Executive Officer of the Authority within three business days of receiving notice of the denial. The letter should be addressed to Chief Executive Officer, Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority, 2301 S. Prairie, Chicago, Illinois 60616. In the alternative, the appeal may be sent via facsimile transmission to the Chief Executive Officer at 312-791-7125. The Chief Executive Officer will issue a decision within three business days of the date the Authority receives the letter appealing the decision. Applicants will be notified of the Chief Executive Officer's decision by Facsimile, if available, or by telephone or mail.

10. Upon request, applicant will be furnished a copy of Navy Pier’s “Policy for Public Expression at Navy Pier and the Headlands,” which more fully details application procedures, review criteria, appeal rights in the event of denial, and time and place restrictions concerning public expression on Navy Pier and the Headlands.

11. Applicant acknowledges that applicant has read and understood the attached Rules and Regulations, and agrees to abide by them if a permit is granted. If applicant is applying on behalf of an organization or group, applicant warrants that he/she has the authority to bind the organization or group listed in line 5 above. If applicant does not have such authority or if no organization or group is involved, applicant agrees that this application is made on his/her own behalf and is binding on applicant.

12. Applicant understands and acknowledges that this application is being made solely to express applicant’s own views. Applicant expressly agrees not to hold itself out as affiliated with or expressing the views of Navy Pier, the Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority and/or its management and agents.

13. Applicant agrees that applicant has come to Navy Pier voluntarily, at applicant’s own risk. Applicant expressly agrees to hold harmless Navy Pier, the Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority and/or its management and agents for any injuries that applicants may incur as a result of applicant’s expressive activities.

I certify that the foregoing information is true and correct, to the best of my knowledge.

Signed: _____	_____
	Print Name
_____	_____
	Print Name
_____	_____
	Print Name
_____	_____
	Print Name
_____	_____
	Print Name

RULES AND REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO PERMITS FOR PUBLIC EXPRESSION AT NAVY PIER AND GATEWAY PARK

Persons granted a permit to engage in non-commercial expressive activity shall not:

- Violate any laws, City ordinances or zoning requirements or prohibitions;
- Cause injury or damage to Navy Pier resources or facilities;
- Interfere with ingress or egress of Navy Pier patrons;
- Impair the operation of Navy Pier facilities;
- Endanger the health or safety of the public or Navy Pier patrons;
- Carry or distribute balloons;
- Litter;
- Generate noise through the use of amplified sound devices, such as bullhorns, public address systems, in violation of levels permitted in the City of Chicago Ordinances.
- Affix signs, Literature or other materials to any object, structure, sculpture, or tree on Navy Pier or in Gateway Park;
- Use vehicles or any other wheeled device as part of an expressive activity, with the exception of wheelchairs and other similar motorized devices for those individuals physically requiring such devices;
- Store or leave unattended any boxes or bags of literature or any other materials;
- Erect any table, chair, booth or other structure or physical prop;
- Disseminate obscene materials

In addition, persons granted a permit to leaflet on Navy Pier shall not:

- Use any voice amplification device (e.g., bullhorns);
- Leaflet outside the designated Leafleting Area;
- Solicit passers-by for contributions or signatures (except that does not prevent a leafleter from handing out material that seeks donations);
- Carry, post or affix signs or placards to any portion of the Pier.
- Note: If a Leafleter requests it, Navy Pier will provide a table and chair to sit at within the leafleting area

Permits apply only to non-commercial expressive activity. The distribution of commercial leaflets or other forms of advertising at Navy Pier and Gateway Park is strictly prohibited except as allowed pursuant to a lease or a short-term license obtained from Authority.

The Authority reserves the right to immediately cancel a permit if the applicant materially violates any of the foregoing rules. Questions concerning whether conduct would comply with these rules may be directed to the General Manager of Navy Pier, 600 Grand Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60611. Copies of the “Policy for Public Expression at Navy Pier and the Headlands” and “Policy for Short-Term Licenses for Space at Navy Pier” are available at the General Manager’s office.