

GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE, HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT

ORDINANCE NO. 2013-003

AN ORDINANCE TO TEMPORARILY SUSPEND ISSUANCE OF PERMITS FOR EXPRESSIVE ACTIVITY, SPECIAL EVENTS, AND FILMING DURING THE CLOSURE OF THE SAN FRANCISCO – OAKLAND BAY BRIDGE

May 10, 2013

THIS ORDINANCE is adopted with reference to the following facts and circumstances as found and declared by the Board of Directors:

1. The District's Master Ordinance prescribes requirements for the conduct of expressive activities on sidewalks and designated public areas located near the Golden Gate Bridge. Specifically, Section I, subsection F, sets forth the circumstances under which an expressive activity permit is required in advance, and the procedures for obtaining such expressive activity permits from the District.

2. The Master Ordinance also prescribes requirements for special events, filming and other commercial activities that are held on the sidewalks and designated public areas located near the Golden Gate Bridge. Specifically, Section I, subsection G, sets forth procedures for obtaining permits in advance for such activities.

3. The State of California, Department of Transportation (Caltrans) has announced that it intends to completely close the San Francisco – Oakland Bay Bridge (SFOBB) for up to five days over the 2013 Labor Day Weekend to accommodate certain final construction operations necessary to place the Bridge into service. Although a final schedule has not been published yet, the closure is tentatively scheduled to start on the evening of Thursday, August 29, 2013 and extend to the early morning hours of Tuesday, September 3, 2013.

4. The complete closure of the SFOBB for up to five days will cause significant impacts to traffic throughout the region, especially on the Golden Gate Bridge, which will become the shortest route into and out of San Francisco for much of the Bay Area.

5. Management of the increased traffic and the necessity to keep traffic in the corridor moving smoothly will require the full attention and resources of the operations staff at the Golden Gate Bridge and of the California Highway Patrol and other allied agencies.

6. In order to allow District staff maximum flexibility in the planning, implementation, mobilization and demobilization regarding the closure of the SFOBB, it is proposed that the temporary suspension of permits for activities on sidewalks and designated public areas located near the Golden Gate Bridge begin one full day before the planned closure and extend one full day after the closure. It is therefore proposed that the suspension be for the period August 28, 2013 through September 4, 2013.

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7. In the event that the dates of the SFOBB closure are changed, it is recommended that the General Manager be authorized to change the dates of the temporary suspension to match the revised closure dates.

8. Suspension of permits in this manner over the Labor Day weekend is consistent with previous findings and rules of the District. Section I, Subsection F(7)(b), of the Master Ordinance already limits the extent to which permits for expressive activities and special events are allowed on Labor Day weekend on the Golden Gate Bridge and nearby District property. The CHP has designated certain holidays, including Labor Day, and adjacent weekend days, as statewide maximum enforcement periods. During these periods, fewer CHP personnel are available for assignment to a particular special event or expressive activity. After evaluating the impacts of decreased CHP staff during these periods, the District determined that permitted expressive activity and special events during certain times of day during the Labor Day weekend would create unusually high safety and security risks because of the significantly high volume of traffic on the Bridge and District property located near the Bridge coupled with the limited availability of District and other law enforcement personnel due to security needs throughout the Bay Area. Therefore, currently, the District only grants permits for expressive activity on the Bridge sidewalks and on designated District property located near the Bridge until 11:00 a.m. during the Labor Day weekend. Considering the increased demands on staff and security that will occur during the closure of the SFOBB, a longer temporary suspension over the Labor Day is warranted.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE, HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The issuance of permits pursuant to Section I, subsection F, Provisions Pertaining to Use of District Properties for Expressive Activities, and subsection G, Procedure for Use of District Facilities for Special Events, Filming and Other Commercial Purposes, for the conduct of activities on Bridge sidewalks and designated public areas located near the Golden Gate Bridge during the period August 28, 2013 through September 4, 2013 is temporarily suspended with the understanding that if the SFOBB closure dates are postponed, the General Manager is authorized to modify the aforementioned Golden Gate Bridge permit suspension period to coincide with the SFOBB closure dates, as well as one day before and one day following the SFOBB closure.

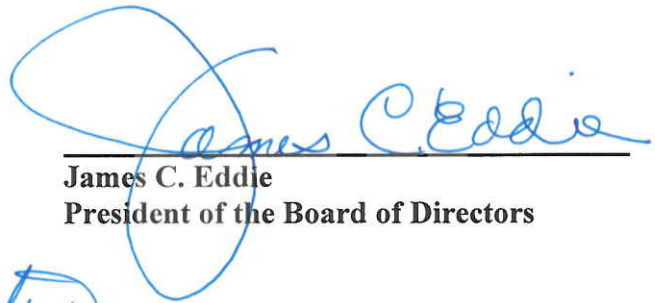
Section 2. The effective date of this ordinance shall be the date of its adoption.

Section 3. If any provision of this ordinance or the application thereof to a person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect any other provisions or applications of the ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end, the provision of this ordinance is severable.

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ADOPTED this 10th day of May, 2013, by the following vote of the Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District Board of Directors:

- AYES (16):** Directors Arnold, Belforte, Breed, Cochran, Fredericks, Pahre, Rabbitt, Reilly, Sears, Snyder, Sobel, Theriault, Wiener and Yee; Second Vice President Stroeh; and President Eddie
- NOES (1):** First Vice President Grosboll
- ABSENT (2):** Directors Campos and Moylan



James C. Eddie
President of the Board of Directors

ATTEST: 
Janet S. Tarantino
Secretary of the District