

Responses from Cities RE: Occupy Groups

City	1. Have you had any interaction with an Occupy Wall Street-like group, also known as 99%, in your city?	2. If so, is it necessary for them to acquire permits or to provide documentation of another type to be in the park?	3. If yes, has the group followed through with securing the documentation?	4. Have you had to restrict their use of the park and if so, how were the restrictions enforced?	Other Comments
Austin, TX	Yes. There have been permitting discussions with them as soon as our local public safety officials received intelligence as to a potential assembly/occupation/event.	Yes, by City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department rules, permits are required for organized events, or for any element that would regularly require a permit by law (amplified sound, camping, occupying a park beyond curfew).	The group did receive information from city entities through a joint information sharing meeting with identified leaders or key person in the movement. No permit request was received to occupy a park.	The City has not had to restrict usage of any park during this 3 week timeframe beyond ensuring messaging related to existing park rules, and proactive enforcement where minimally needed.	
Phoenix, AZ	Yes, Park property first day and Plaza (public Forum thereafter) Police arrested 45 people for violating posted park hours of operation	They decided after first day to use a plaza in downtown, city property, considered public forum	They have been compliant with Cities request (Police have been extremely helpful in enforcing our Camping Ordinance and working cooperatively with the "organizers")	We are enforcing City Park rules in parks as we would in all cases. However, since the Plaza is not designated as a Park it is being treated as a Public Forum. We are enforcing the Camping Ordinance in the Plaza since it applies to all City property.	
Atlanta, GA	Yes	The code requires it. Mayor Reed issues an executive order that allowed them to be in the park from 11PM to 6AM when all City of Atlanta parks are closed. He subsequently revoked the order.	The group never submitted any permit application.	The group was removed peaceably from the park early today. 53 members of the group were arrested for being in a park when it was closed. We closed the park today to clean it and assess damage.	
Detroit, MI	Occupy Detroit came to our city on 10/14	Detroit ordinances require a permit to utilize the parks for activities and/or special events.	The group was informed of the ordinances and city codes regarding permits for the park and alternate duration period. 60 days was not authorized due to Michigan Health and Safety rules. Unfortunately, the group has not secured the proper documentation.	The Detroit police department has taken the lead on restriction and enforcement. We are attempting to avoid a contentious environment and allowing the group to have activities at the location, however have shut down all utilities and other support.	
Kansas City, MO	Yes - they occupy Penn Valley Park, across the street from the new Federal Reserve building. Their location is not highly visible to the general public.	Yes - Our parks do not close. Someone sleeping in park without erecting a structure (aka tent) is legal. However, if the group wanted to set up tents, they would need approval from the department by way of a permit and insurance	Occupy KC has not acquired any permits.	For the time being, we have not restricted their access. The group has been in the Park for about a month. We meet with Police daily to discuss the issue and they continue to monitor the situation. No arrests to date.	

Oakland, CA	Yes	No, they were given a pass to set up. According to our ordinance permits are required and you are suppose to be out of the park by 10pm. This ordinance was bypass for ten days. As of yesterday they were removed and will not be allowed to spend the night or set up tents.	In addition they claim to be interested in coming before our Commission to gain access, have fees waived and sleep over night. Our commission only advises and only approves the acceptance of money in the park. Therefore their request is an Admin decision that will come to me. Their request goes against city policy therefore it will be denied or a charge during the day will be assessed.	No restrictions when Occupy Oakland was in full force, other groups and events such as weddings that were plan were relocated or moved indoors and/or protesters were asked to be considerate and not interfere. Now that they have been evicted. The parks are blocked off and guarded by OPD while Public Works Agency brings them back to a acceptable and decent standard.	
Milwaukee, WI	Yes	Yes, we require public events to be permitted.	The Occupy Group has not provided all needed documentation required by Milwaukee County, therefore, we did not issue a permit for this event.	Yes, we restricted over night camping. Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office enforces all county ordinances.	
Baltimore, MD	Yes, they have been "occupying" McKeldin Square, adjacent to our Inner Harbor Area in downtown Baltimore since Oct 6.	McKeldin square is a designated protest zone for the City of Baltimore; however, regulations state that groups of under 30 people, with no set-ups, can protest there without a permit up till 12 midnight when the park closes. Larger groups or groups who want to set up in the square are required to get a permit from Rec. & Parks.	The second week that the group was in the square, they filed a permit application through their "legal team", there was no individual named as responsible for the group and no signature on the application, there was no end date for their permitted activity and they wanted a fee waiver and a waiver of our five day limit for a park permit application. We responded that we could not process the application as it was submitted.	We had the Baltimore Marathon happening in the square on October 15th, we worked out an arrangement with the group to co-exist with the Marathon organizers, the group cooperated and the event went smoothly. The City has just released (yesterday) a set of guidelines that they want the group to comply with that would restrict the area for set-ups in the square and the overnight camping, it has caused some back-lash. We have not had any enforcement issues as of yet.	
Sacramento, CA	The Occupy Sacramento group (40-300 protestors) have focused on Cesar Chavez Park adjacent to City Hall starting in early October using it as their "headquarters". From there they have organized their daily activities including marches on banks and lending institutions and appearing at City Council for the past 3 weeks. Overall, the movement has been peaceful and civil.	They inquired about permits early on but never applied. The City has treated the activity as an expression of the first amendment – no permits required.	No.	4) We have restricted the use of the park from the beginning and have not allowed overnight stays – enforced by Sacramento PD. Our ordinance prohibits camping in our parks and use of the park from sun up to sun down. We have made accommodations for this group. We allow them to set up their tents and equipment during the day and they must take everything down, remove it and vacate the park from 11pm-5am. If not, after due notice to vacate, they are arrested. We have had 70-80 arrests to date. There is an round-the-clock police presence to enforce the ordinance and monitor the group's activities.	Regardless of the movement's bigger purpose to protest corporate greed and such, the focus of Occupy Sacramento now has a singular focus – occupy Cesar Chavez Park 24/7. So far, the number of protesters involved appears static and does not appear to be growing.

Oklahoma City, OK	Yes they have a special event permit to use a park downtown.	Yes they have been required to obtain a special event permit like any other park use group. Cost \$55 per day.	Yes they have obtained and paid for permits for all time used.	No. Parks staff and Police monitor event.	
Denver, CO	yes	yes	yes	Yes, mild enforcement on curfew restrictions	
Memphis, TN	We have had a local Occupy Wall Street meet in Overton Park	The Police require an assembly permit if more than 25 persons will be there and they have complied.	They meet at the large pavilion in the park. We only charge to reserve the pavilion for an event, they have not reserved it and they have left very peaceably when a group with a reservation appeared. We haven't had any problems and now that they know the rules, they are following them.	We haven't had any reason to restrict their use of the park.	
Omaha, NE	yes, Occupy Omaha. They state they are "leaderless".	Yes, an open use permit for \$35/day is a typical fee. We have not had one extend beyond 1 day to date.	Not yet. We are waiting for a permit application, with fee. Also they are having to go to City Council for suspension of our park hours, which will be heard at the Council on Nov. 7th.		
Cincinnati, OH	yes	yes		Citations for after hours violations, then arrests for criminal trespassing.	
Boston, MA	yes	Occupy is in violation of the permitting rules which have not changed.	The City, after weighing the public safety risks of removing/blocking Occupy, has chosen not to take such action at this time.	The City is continually assessing public safety and health concerns and will take enforcement actions, to include removal, if necessary to protect the public and the Occupy protesters.	
Nashville, TN	1. Yes, but we were only a backup to their position in front of the State Capitol	Yes	Yes, they met all requirements	We do not allow overnight stays and when they were told this, they decided to stay at the plaza in front of the State Capitol	
Tucson, AZ	Yes	Tucson City Code, Ordinances, Rules and Regulations do require permits/reservations for this type of use, especially if exclusive use is desired. This includes daily reservation fees, provision of Liability Insurance with the City listed as additional insured and other regulations.	Yes	To date, the Tucson Police Department is enforcing the after hours use of the park (after 10:30 pm) by issuing citations to individuals and then releasing. They continue to occupy one park and have started a small occupation at one other.	
Los Angeles, CA	yes, OccupyLA has been on City Hall Park for approximately 23 days. The group started out with approximately 20 tents and has now reached about 380 tents. The high point was last week at over 400 tents. They have a library, two first aide tents, a class room, food distribution, showers and toilets.	Nothing is permitted. Our municipal code regulates the park. Basically, 10PM till 6AM. However, they have maintained a steady presence 24 hours a day.	No permits are issued nor requested. No arrests other than for other misdemeanor crimes, IE Battery, Theft, are being made.	Enforcement of the municipal code is the responsibility of our Office of Public Safety (General Services Department) and our Los Angeles Police Department.	To date, over \$200K in damage to the infrastructure has been done_ grass and sprinklers.

Columbus, OH	Yes. They have obtained permits to occupy Public Right of Way for their purpose.	They have not pulled park permits at this time. They have requested permit to camp in downtown parks but we do not allow camping and the parks are open 7 am to 11 pm.	They have pulled permits for street ROW. Not for parks	Not at this time	
St. Louis, MO	Yes	Yes We have allowed them to occupy a portion of one of our Downtown Parks and have sent them a permit application We have negotiated several conditions in the permit, but they have not returned the permit application and required insurance	No	At the present time they occupy the space based upon first amendment rights We have asked them to observe park curfew laws which to a large extent they have ignored.	
El Paso, TX	Yes	Group was required to submit permit application.	It was difficult getting complete information from them. Also, we require the permit to be in the name of a responsible party. They claim to be a democratic "leaderless" group. All the same, a spokesperson stepped forward and signed the permit, providing contact info, etc.	We actually changed our city code so that we could allow them to be in the park past closing hours and to camp. We permitted them for four weeks on a nonexclusive basis. So far we haven't had issues, other than to remind them to yield to the maintenance staff. It will be interesting to see what happens after the end date of the permit.	
Springfield, MO	Yes	Park permits for 30 or more people are required.	Yes, if necessary	Yes on park closing times and enforced through City Police and Park Rangers.	