

Sarah Ryan, Chief of
Police

2025 SPECIAL EVENT PERMITS



Purpose

- Receive Report on 2025 Special Events
- Provide direction regarding changes to specific recurring special events, permits
- Determine if any additional review should be required for any planned recurring 2026 special events



Special Event Background

Police Department issues SE permits

- *Major SE Permits*
 - Over 200 attendees
 - Closure of a major street (as defined by Ordinance 1065)
 - Notable impacts on City services or a neighborhood
- *Minor SE Permits*
 - Between 75 to 200 attendees
 - Not requiring closure of a major street
 - Minimal impacts on city services
 - Can be approved by the City Manager



2025 - Staff Issued 11 Major SE Permits, 20 Minor SE Permits, and 30 City Organized Events

11 Public Major Special Events

- February Surfer's Path 10k/5k
- Capitola Art & Wine Festival
- April Surfer's Path Half Marathon
- Capitola Beach Festival
- Capitola Custom Classic Car Show
- Women on Waves
- Wharf to Wharf
- August Surfer's Path Capitola 10k/5k
- Mermaid Triathlon & Duathlon
- Monte Foundation Fireworks
- VW Car Show



20 Public Minor Special Events

- Village Sip and Stroll (3 total)
- California Coast Classic Ride
- Operation Surf
- Veteran Surf Alliance Paddle Out
- Veteran Surf Alliance Learn to Surf (4 total)
- Fill the Boot for Muscular Dystrophy
- Halloween Parade
- Surfing Santa
- Walk for Angelman's Syndrome
- AIDS/Lifecycle Bicycle Ride
- Waves of Impact
- Good Friday Paddle Out
- 3 Baptize America
- Open Water Swim Festival
- National Night Out
- Outstanding In the Field



30 City Organized Events

- Junior Guards Competition – *July*
- 4 Food Truck Fridays at Monterey Park – Minor Event
May, June, July, August
- 4 Makers Market – *June, July, August*
- 3 Boogie On the Wharf – *August & September*
- Dueling Pianos – *July & August*
- 2 New Music Sunday – *July & August*
- 12 Wednesday Night Twilight Concerts – Major Event
June – August
- 2 Friday Night Movies at the Beach – Major Event
August & September
- Plein Air – Minor Event (occurs over several days)



2025 Recap

- Joint debriefs were conducted with event organizers and overall, the events were successful.
- Continuous request to encourage any new events to occur on “shoulder season”
- Staff billed for 876 hours of City staff time. City incurred a total of \$111,807 in costs associated with events, 100% reimbursed by organizers.
- Staff is prepared to support 2026 Major and Minor Events listed in staff agenda report.



2025 Event Overview

Major:

January – 0

July – 5

February – 1

August – 5

March – 0

September – 2

April – 1

October – 3

May – 1

November – 0

June – 4

December – 0

Minor:

January – 0

July – 8

February – 2

August – 11

March – 2

September – 7

April – 2

October – 1

May – 6

November – 3

June – 6

December – 0

Coastal Development Permit

CDP required by City's approved LCP if one or more criteria:

1. Scheduled Memorial Day through Labor Day for more than 2 days, including setup and takedown
2. Event occupies a portion of a publicly or private beach, park, wharf, or beach parking AND potential for adverse effect on sensitive coastal resources
3. Fee charged for admission and/or seating where no fee is currently charged OR, if fee is charged for preferred seating and less than 75% of seating is free



Coastal Development Permit

Recurring Events requiring CDP

1. Junior Guards Competition – takes place during summer and involves more than 2 days including setup and takedown.
2. Capitola Beach Festival – occupies portions of beach and wharf and potential for adverse effect on sensitive coastal resources

Recommended Action

- Provide feedback, specific changes, or direction for recurring Special Events Permits; and approve recurring minor and major special events for 2026.
- Adopt a resolution to approve Coastal Development Permit #25-0607 for the 2026 Capitola Beach Festival and Junior Guards Competition.
