

MOTION

Keep Hollywood Home - Free Micro-Shoot Filming Permits

Many filmmakers, students, documentary crews, and commercial content creators rely on small, low-footprint filming in public spaces that does not obstruct pedestrian access, require public-safety staffing, or meaningfully impact neighborhoods. Under current procedures, even these very small productions may be required to obtain a film permit and pay associated administrative fees, creating barriers that discourage emerging creators, raise costs unnecessarily, and push filming activity into surrounding jurisdictions that have adopted simplified rules for micro-shoots.

Other major film cities—including New York City and multiple Los Angeles County jurisdictions—have adopted simplified, no-fee permit categories for micro-shoots. These models preserve public safety and liability protections while eliminating costs and unnecessary administrative burdens. Los Angeles must adopt a similar approach to support new creators, maintain public transparency, and ensure the City is aware of filming activities occurring in public spaces.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council INSTRUCT the City Attorney, with assistance from FilmLA, the Board of Public Works, the Los Angeles Police Department, the Los Angeles Fire Department, and the Los Angeles Department of Transportation, to prepare and present within 60 days an ordinance establishing a **free Micro-Shoot Permit**, required for any public-space filming activity that meets **all** of the following criteria:

- involves no more than 10 people on site;
- uses only handheld cameras, smartphones, small tripods, or similar lightweight equipment;
- does not block more than half of any sidewalk, maintains ADA access, and does not restrict public use;
- uses no generators, lighting units over 25 pounds, C-stands, dollies, or amplified sound;
- does not require parking removal, traffic control, or exclusive use of the public right-of-way; and
- does not involve drones, pyrotechnics, simulated weapons, hazardous activities, or special effects.

The ordinance shall further specify that:

- The Micro-Shoot Permit is free of charge, and
- The permit shall require only minimal registration information (location, time window, contact person) to allow the City to maintain awareness and ensure public-safety coordination when necessary.

I FURTHER MOVE that FilmLA be INSTRUCTED to:

- integrate the Micro-Shoot Permit as a one-page, rapid-approval application on its digital platform;
- issue approvals within 24 hours to the best possible except when safety concerns require clarification;
- clearly publish guidance on when and how a micro-shoot must obtain this no-fee permit; and
- include Micro-Shoot Permit data in its quarterly reporting to the Board of Public Works Film Liaison.

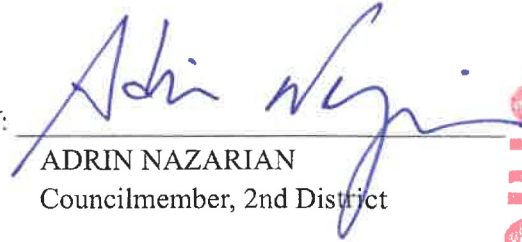
I FURTHER MOVE that the Board of Public Works Film Liaison develop standardized conditions for Micro-Shoot Permits—including safety guidance, neighborhood expectations, and ADA rules—and incorporate this into the Citywide Filming Handbook.


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I FURTHER MOVE that the establishment of the free Micro-Shoot Permit shall not be interpreted to allow FilmLA or any City department to deprioritize or delay review of larger productions, including episodic series, feature films, and major commercial shoots.

PRESENTED BY:



ADRIN NAZARIAN
Councilmember, 2nd District

SECONDED BY:



BOB HUMPHREYS
Councilmember, 2nd District

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