

MOTION

Keep Hollywood Home - LA Creator Pass Production Filming Fee Waiver Pilot

Filming in the City of Los Angeles remains a foundational economic driver, sustaining tens of thousands of union jobs, supporting local businesses, and anchoring a globally significant creative economy. While the City has taken steps to reduce friction for very small productions through micro-shoot permit exemptions, a substantial segment of independent, documentary, commercial, and creator-driven productions continues to face disproportionate permitting costs that do not meaningfully correspond to public-safety risk or neighborhood impact.

These productions are larger than micro-shoots, yet far smaller than episodic series, studio features, or large-scale commercials. They represent a critical middle tier of production activity that generates steady employment, vendor utilization, and creative output, but is especially sensitive to unpredictable fees and administrative delays. Without targeted relief, this segment is increasingly pushed to nearby jurisdictions with simpler and more predictable permitting regimes.

To stabilize this portion of the production ecosystem and to evaluate the real-world impact of fee relief without compromising safety or service levels for larger productions, the City should implement a narrowly tailored, time-limited pilot focused on this defined category.

For purposes of this pilot, LA Creator Pass Productions shall be defined as **productions with 50 or fewer on-set personnel, excluding cast, that do not trigger activity-based public-safety staffing requirements under City policy (e.g., pyrotechnics/open flame, simulated gunfire, drone operations, or extended roadway closures)**. This pilot waives City-imposed fees and does not require FilmLA to create new permit categories, staffing classifications, or administrative systems.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council INSTRUCT the LADOT, RAP, and LAFD to establish a 12-month LA Creator Pass Production Filming Fee Waiver Pilot Program, to begin within 45 days of Council adoption, which shall provide the following relief for qualifying LA Creator Pass Productions:

- **Recreation and Parks:** waive standard filming fees for basic park facilities where no exclusive use or additional staffing is required; and
- **Los Angeles Department of Transportation:** waive fees for posting and non-traffic-control lane closures; and
- **Los Angeles Fire Department:** Waiver of Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) waive “spot check” fees for productions that do not involve pyrotechnics, drones, amplified sound, open flame, or special effects.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Council INSTRUCT the LAPD and LAFD to exempt qualifying LA Creator Pass Productions from mandatory Motion Picture Officer (MPO) or Fire Safety Officer (FSO) staffing requirements, unless a department documents a specific, activity-based safety trigger, in writing, on the permit record, identifying the specific trigger condition and the minimum staffing level necessary, including but not limited to:

- Pyrotechnics or open flame;
- Simulated gunfire;
- Road closures exceeding fifteen minutes; or
- Other demonstrable hazards requiring sworn or fire personnel.

FEB 13 2026

I FURTHER MOVE that in the event of a dispute regarding staffing requirements, the Board of Public Works Film Liaison shall serve as the final authority, with a presumption in favor of the staffing exemption for LA Creator Pass Productions.

For any LA Creator Pass Production where an MPO or FSO is determined to be necessary, the applicable daily rate shall be capped at a subsidized rate established for the pilot.

I FURTHER MOVE that LADOT shall accept posting submissions consistent with Citywide posting rules adopted under Phase 1 Keep Hollywood Home motions, and maintain an end-of-day submission cutoff of 5:00 PM for next-business-day processing where operationally feasible, and shall apply standardized curb space and non-Intermittent Traffic Control lane-closure rules to LA Creator Pass Productions.

I FURTHER MOVE that all relevant departments including the Bureau of Engineering, LADOT, LAFD, LAPD, RAP, the Board of Public Works, the Department of Water and Power, the Port of Los Angeles, and FilmLA shall update permitting procedures to ensure that qualifying LA Creator Pass Productions automatically receive the fee waivers and staffing exemptions described herein, and shall report back at the conclusion of the pilot on implementation, usage volume, fiscal impacts, and operational outcomes.

I FURTHER MOVE that all relevant City departments shall adopt a 24-hour turnaround standard for LA Creator Pass-related permit modifications or approvals, with non-response treated as “no objection,” unless a specific, documented safety concern is identified and verified by the Board of Public Works Film Liaison.

I FURTHER MOVE that implementation of the LA Creator Pass Production Filming Fee Waiver Pilot shall not result in reduced staffing, delayed processing, or diminished service levels for non-Creator Pass productions, including episodic series, feature films, and major commercial shoots, and that departments shall maintain equivalent service standards for productions of all sizes.

PRESENTED BY:


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Councilmember, 2nd District

SECONDED BY:



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