TOWNSHIP OF PARSIPPANY – TROY HILLS
MORRIS COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

ORDINANCE NO. 2026:47

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PARSIPPANY-TROY HILLS, MORRIS COUNTY, NEW JERSEY AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 160, FILMING, OF THE CODE OF PARSIPPANY-TROY HILLS

WHEREAS, Town Council of the Township of Parsippany-Troy Hills (the "**Township**") is authorized by the New Jersey Municipal Law, N.J.S.A. 40:48-2 et seq., to adopt, amend, and enforce ordinances that are necessary and proper for the good government of the Township, the protection of persons and property, and the preservation of the public, health, safety, and welfare; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Motion Picture and Television Commission has established the Film Ready New Jersey Program (the "**Program**") concerning municipalities filming procedures and related regulations; and

WHEREAS, the Township currently maintains provisions within its Code regulating filming activities since 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Township seeks to revise certain provisions of its existing film regulations to ensure compliance with the applicable requirements of the Program; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council finds that updating the existing regulations will promote a clear and consistent permitting process while maintaining appropriate safeguards for public safety, municipal property, and the rights and interests of residents and businesses; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council has determined that the amendments to the existing film ordinance are necessary and proper to advance these objectives.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Council of the Township of Parsippany-Troy Hills, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, that the amendments set forth below are made to the revised General Ordinances of the Township of Parsippany-Troy Hills, Chapter 160 entitled "Filming" (additions ****between asterisks and/or in bold****, deletions {within brackets and/or ~~struck through~~}

Section 1. §160-2(A) Permit required; application.

A. No person, firm, organization or corporation shall film or permit filming ****on public or private property where such filming involves the use of public property for the operation, placement or temporary storage of vehicles or equipment utilized in such filming, including, but not limited to, any temporary structure, barricade, or device**

intended to restrict or block off pedestrian or vehicular traffic* within the Township of Parsippany-Troy Hills without:

(1) Obtaining an application for permit therefor;
(2) Obtaining the required approvals; and
(3) Filing the completed/approved permit, together with the applicable permit fee to the Township at least {~~10 calendar~~} ****4 business days**** days prior to the first date that filming is to take place. ****The 4-day notice requirement may be waived as per § 160-4 below.****

Section 2. §160-3 Refusal to issue permit; reemployment of patrolmen and electrician.

A. The Township Clerk may refuse to issue a permit whenever he/she determines, on the basis of objective facts and after a review of the application and a written report thereon by the Police Department and by other Township departments involved with the proposed filming site, that filming at the location and/or the time set forth in the application would violate any law or ordinance or would unreasonably interfere with the use and enjoyment of adjoining properties, or in the opinion of the Police Department would unreasonably impede the free flow of vehicular or pedestrian traffic or otherwise endanger the public's health, safety or welfare.

B. The {~~Township~~} ***Police Chief*** reserves the right to require one or more on-site police officers in situations where the proposed production may impede the proper flow of traffic, ***as per the agreed upon Public Safety Plan,*** the cost of said officers to be borne by the applicant as a cost of production. Where existing electrical power lines are to be utilized by the production, an on-site licensed electrician may be similarly required if the production company does not have a licensed electrician on staff.

C. ****No permit shall be issued unless and until the applicant has obtained all approvals required from the applicable Township departments and municipal authorities, including, as applicable, the Police Department, Fire Department, Zoning Department, and Health Department, based upon the nature, scope, and requirements of the proposed filming activities.**

Section 3. § 160-5 (B) Appeals.

B. An appeal from the decision of the Township Clerk shall be filed no later than 10 {~~calendar~~} ***business*** days from the date of the denial or revocation of the permit. The matter shall be decided by the Township ~~Administrator~~ ** **Attorney**** upon the written record unless a hearing is requested. Any hearing shall be conducted informally by the Township ~~Administrator~~****Attorney****, and the formal rules of evidence shall not apply. The decision of the ~~Administrator~~ ** **Township Attorney**** shall be issued within ****20**** days from the date of the notice of the appeal. Such decision is final and appealable to the Superior Court of the State of New Jersey.

Section 4. § 160-8 Fees

~~The schedule of fees for the issuance of permits authorized by this Chapter shall be set forth by resolution of the Township Council~~.

****Application fee public property: $100**

Application fee (3 or less business days' advance notice): $250

Application fee for nonprofits, including student films: $25

Daily filming fee public property project with a budget of under $20 million dollars: $150

Daily filming fee public property project with a budget of over $20 million dollars: $500

Filming entirely on private property: No Daily filming fee is required. **

Section 5 § 160-10 Exemptions.

The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to:

A. The filming of news stories within the Township of Parsippany-Troy Hills by individuals and/or legitimate entities or organizations for purposes of journalism or news reporting;

B. Filming by one individual using a hand-held camera without the assistance of other persons, or filming by one or more individuals for weddings, religious occasions, and other family or social private parties, occasions, events, or functions;

C. Filming by a student in grade school, middle school, high school, college, university or other bona fide educational institution upon receipt by the Township Clerk of a written certification from a teacher or administrator at the school attended by the student stating that the filming is for educational purposes only and is not intended for commercial use;

D. Filming for authorized municipal government purposes as may be authorized by the Township Council or the Township Administrator.

E. **Filming that occurs entirely on county, state or federally owned property (i.e.: county parks, courthouses, etc.), when no municipal services are being used (i.e.: paring on public streets, etc.) or public rights-of-way are being obstructed (i.e.: blocked sidewalks or public access) and when the required permit is obtained from the applicable county, state, or federal authority.**

Section 6 ****§160-12 Hours and Dates of Filming**

A. Standard filming days and hours for production ("Permit Period(s)") shall be from 6:00am to 10:00pm (camera wrap) and crew wrap at 11:00pm, Monday through Sunday. Night filming restrictions shall only apply to a Project with exterior filming. Adjustments

and special circumstances may be agreed upon between the Film Permit Representative and the Township at the time a film permit is approved.

B. There shall not be any restriction on the number of consecutive days or the total days per calendar year that any one location can be used for filming. **

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BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict or inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed, but only, however to the extent of such conflict or inconsistency, it being the legislative intent that all other ordinances or parts of ordinances now existing and in effect, unless the same be in conflict or inconsistent with any of the provisions of this ordinance, shall remain in full force and effect; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED this amending ordinance shall become effective upon due passage and publication according to law