



**District 10 Como Community Council**  
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## Do's and Don'ts During the State Fair

### Guidelines for District 10 residents, businesses and institutions

#### **Yard Parking**

Saint Paul zoning code sets up a “state fair parking overlay district” during the 12 days of the Fair. The overlay district covers the areas bounded by:

- Hoyt, Hamline, Wynne, and Snelling
- Hoyt, Chelsea, Arlington, and Hamline
- Como, Snelling, Wynne, and Winston

Within the overlay district, residents can park vehicles anywhere on their property, including their side yards and front yards. Residents who park vehicles in their front yards must get “written consent” each year from neighbors on both sides of them.

**Where to call:** If you suspect a violation, contact the Department of Safety and Inspections: 651-266-8989.

#### **Street Parking**

On many streets in District 10 west of Lexington Parkway, vehicles can park on only one side of the street during the 12 days of the State Fair. Some of these streets don't allow parking at all. These streets are marked with specific “no parking” signs. It is also illegal to park:

- Within 5 feet of the entrance to an alley or private driveway
- Within 10 feet of a fire hydrant
- Within 20 feet of a crosswalk (marked or unmarked)
- Within 30 feet of a stoplight, stop sign, yield sign, or other traffic-control sign or device;
- Within 80 feet of a bus stop
- On a street in Residential Permit Parking Area 29 without displaying a permit

**Alleys:** Vehicles also cannot park in an alley, unless there is at least 10 feet available for traffic to get by, the vehicle is at least 5 feet from of any driveway or garage entrance on its side of the alley, and at least 20 feet away from a driveway or garage entrance on the other side of the alley.

**Where to call:** If you suspect a parking violation, contact the Saint Paul Police non-emergency number – 651-291-1111 – and request parking enforcement.

#### **Peddlers**

There are very few places where peddlers can operate legally in District 10 near the State Fairgrounds.

- They can't operate on park land. That means, for example, that the sidewalks, boulevards and grassy median of Midway Parkway are off limits. So is Tilden Park.
- They can't operate within 25 feet of an intersection. That means, for example, that the corner of Snelling and Midway, across from the Fairgrounds' main entrance, is off limits.
- They can't operate on any sidewalk that is less than 6 feet wide. That, for example, rules out almost all of Snelling Ave. from Hoyt south to Almond.

**Where to call:** If you suspect a violation, contact the Department of Safety and Inspections: 651-266-8989.

## **Vendors**

Saint Paul zoning code sets up a “state fair vending overlay district” during the 12 days of the Fair. This overlay district runs mostly along the east side of Snelling Ave. from Hoyt south to Canfield. Property owners in the vending overlay district can get a permit if they get written permission from neighbors on both sides. With the vending permit, property owners can use or lease their front yards to set up permanent merchandise booths.

## **Other**

**Signs:** No one – residents, businesses, institutions, etc. – can legally plant signs in boulevards, on sidewalks, in the street, on medians, in alleys, or on other public property without a permit (Sec. 64.401.I). If you suspect a violation, gather a description of the sign, its content and its location, then contact the Department of Safety and Inspections (651-266-8989).

**Golf carts:** Golf carts cannot operate legally on Saint Paul streets. If you see a potential violation, call the Saint Paul Police non-emergency number: 651-291-1111. Be sure to request an officer. Report the street on which you saw the cart, the direction of travel, an address if you know where the cart is based, and other identifying information.

**Something to think about:** What happens during State Fair reflects on our neighborhood. In the short term, we as community members cannot control the chaos and congestion, especially during the busiest days. We cannot control how much (or how little) city departments enforce parking, peddling, traffic, and other challenges. But we can control our own behavior and expectations. For example:

- When it comes to parking, experienced residents recommend cooperating, not competing. There are enough cars for everyone.
- As Fair attendance increases, and more visitors drive through and walk through our neighborhood, it is an opportunity to help, build relationships, and build a great reputation.
- As more residents are out in their streets, alleys and yards during the Fair, it is an opportunity to get to know each other better, and to keep extra sets of eyes on each other to prevent mischief.

In the meantime, we can continue to work toward long-term solutions that make the 12 days of the Fair a better experience for visitors and residents alike.