



Township Council
1 Municipal Plaza
Bloomfield, NJ 07003

Louise M. Palagano
Municipal Clerk

<http://www.bloomfieldtnj.com>

Meeting: 05/19/25 07:00 PM

2025 ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

Ord 25 18

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 228, "FILMING", IN THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BLOOMFIELD, ESSEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

WHEREAS, the Township of Bloomfield wishes to become designated by the New Jersey Motion Picture and Television Commission (NJMP TVC) as a certified Film Ready Locality.

Now, Therefore

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Bloomfield, County of Essex, State of New Jersey, as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 228, "Filming", of the Code of the Township of Bloomfield, County of Essex, State of New Jersey, is hereby amended to read as follows:

§228-1. Definitions.

FILMING

The taking of still or motion pictures on film or videotape or similar recording medium, for commercial or educational purposes intended for commercial or educational purposes intended for viewing on television, in theaters or for institutional uses. The provisions of this chapter shall not be deemed to include "filming" of news stories within the municipality

MAJOR MOTION PICTURE

Any film which is financed and/or distributed by a major motion picture studio, including but not limited to the following:

- A. Universal Pictures.
- B. Warner Bros. Discovery, including New Line Cinema, HBO, DC Studios and Castle Rock Entertainment.

- C. Paramount, including Miramax, MTV Films, Showtime, Skydance, Dreamworks and Nickelodeon Movies.
- D. Walt Disney Studios, including 20th Century Studios, Searchlight Pictures, Hulu and Marvel Studios.
- E. Sony Pictures, including Columbia Pictures, Screen Gems and Tristar Pictures
- F. Netflix Studios
- G. Amazon MGM Studios
- H. A24
- I. Any film for which the budget is at least \$20,000,000.00
- J. Recurrent weekly television series programming.

§228-2. Permit required; Application; When permit is not required.

- A. No person or organization 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, without first having obtained a permit from the office of the Township Clerk, which permit shall set forth the approved location of such filming and the approved duration of such filming by specific reference to day or dates. Said permit must always be readily available for inspection by township officials at the filming site.
- B. Permits shall be obtained in the office of the Township Clerk during normal business hours. Applications for such permits shall be in a form approved by the Township Clerk and shall be accompanied by a permit fee set forth in §228-14 herein. Incidental use of a public sidewalk or street which does not result in the closing of the

street or sidewalk to public use shall not be considered filming on public land.

Projects may, depending on the needs of the sequence they are filming, have to apply for and receive approval from other municipal authorities (i.e., police, fire, zoning, health, etc.) before a film permit can be issued.

- C. Where filming takes place on private property, permission of the owner must be obtained in writing.
- D. One permit shall be required for each project.
- E. A municipal film permit shall not be required when filming occurs entirely on county, state or federally owned properties when no municipal services are being used (i.e. parking on public streets, etc.) or public rights-of-way are being obstructed, and when the required permit is obtained from the applicable county, state or federal authority.
- F. If a permit is issued and, due to inclement weather or other good cause, filming does not in fact take place on the dates specified, the Township Clerk may, at the request of the applicant, issue a new permit for filming on other dates subject to full compliance with all other provisions of this chapter. No additional fee shall be paid for this permit.
- G. The Township Clerk shall forward copies of permits issued under this chapter to the NJMPTVC as they are approved throughout the year.

§228-3 Shall be deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following

§228-3. Copies of permit; inspections.

Copies of the approved permit will be sent to the Police and Fire Departments before filming takes place and to the New Jersey Film Commission. The applicant shall permit the Fire Prevention Bureau or other township inspectors to inspect the site and the

equipment to be used, if deemed necessary. The applicant shall comply with all safety instructions issued by the Fire Prevention Bureau or other township inspectors.

§228-4. Insurance; indemnification.

A. Provides proof of insurance coverage as follows:

- a. For bodily injury to any one person in the amount of \$500,000 and any occurrence in the aggregate amount of \$1,000,000.
- b. For property damage for each occurrence in the aggregate amount of \$300,000.

§228-7. Interference with other activities.

The holder of a permit shall avoid any interference with previously scheduled activities upon public lands and limit, to the extent possible, any interference with normal public activity on such public lands. Where the applicant's production activity, by reason of location or otherwise, will directly involve and/or affect any businesses, merchants or residents, these parties shall be given written notice of the filming at least four days prior to the requested shooting date and be informed that objections may be filed with the Township Clerk, said objections to form a part of applicant's application and be considered in the review of the same. Proof of service of notification to adjacent owners shall be submitted to the Township Clerk within two days of the requested shooting date.

§228-9. Permitted days and hours.

Filming shall be permitted seven (7) days per week, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. for camera wrap, and until 10:00 p.m. for crew wrap. Night filming restrictions shall only apply to a Project with exterior filming. The Film Permit

Representative and a Project may agree upon adjustments in hours and special circumstances at the time a film permit is approved.

§228-11. Waiver of requirements.

A waiver of any of the requirements or limitations of this chapter may be issued by the Office of the Township Clerk, who may authorize filming other than during the hours herein described or may waive any other limitation or requirement of this chapter whenever it determines that strict compliance with such limitations will pose an unreasonable burden upon the applicant and that such a permit may be issued without endangering the public's health, safety or welfare.

§228-13. Hiring of off-duty police officers; Employment of patrolmen and electrician.

- a. The applicant may be required to hire one or more off-duty police officers for the times indicated on the permit, as determined by the Chief of Police.
- b. The Township Administrator may refuse to issue a permit whenever the Administrator determines, on the basis of objective facts and after a review of the application and a report thereon by the Police Department and by other township agencies involved with 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, unreasonably impede the free flow of vehicular or pedestrian traffic or otherwise endanger the public's health, safety or welfare.
- c. Further, the Township reserves the right to require one or more on-site patrolmen in situations where the proposed production may impede the proper flow of traffic, the cost of said patrolman 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.

§228-14. Fee Schedule; Reimbursement of certain costs.

A. Permit fees and other fees associated with filming shall be according to the following fee schedule:

CATEGORY	Fee (not to exceed)
Basic filming permit (one time; with 4 or more days' advance notice of the first day of filming)	\$100
Expedited basic filming permit (one time; with 3 or less days' advance notice of the first day of filming)	\$250
Basic filming permit for nonprofits, including student films (one-time; no daily rate required)	\$25
Daily filming on public property	
<i>Film and television projects with a budget under \$20mm</i>	\$150
<i>Film and television projects with a budget over \$20mm</i>	\$500
Daily filming on private property	NO FEE CHARGED BY MUNICIPALITY
Public Safety	
<i>Hiring of off-duty police and fire inspections, according to agreed upon public safety plan</i>	The municipality's standard hourly rates for police and fire
Inconvenience fees	
<u><i>Street closures</i></u>	\$5,000
<i>Properties in background - or used - in shot</i>	Fee is negotiated between a production company and a private business or residence
<i>Daily prep of business that is being "dressed"</i>	Fee is negotiated between a production company and a private business
<i>Daily filming of business that is "dressed"</i>	Fee is negotiated between a production company and a private business
Parking fees	Same rates that are charged to the public

B. In addition to any other fees or costs mentioned in this chapter, the applicant shall reimburse the Township for any lost revenue, such as parking meter revenue, repairs to public property or other revenues that the Township was prevented from earning because of filming.

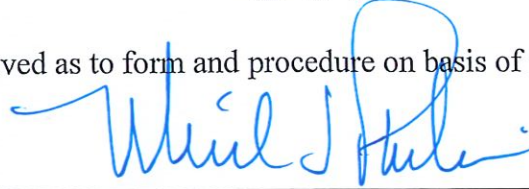
- C. If any inspections such as fire, electrical, building or plumbing are required, the costs shall be paid by the applicant.

Section 2. All ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

Section 3. This ordinance shall take effect upon final passage and publication in accordance with the law.

* * * * *

Approved as to form and procedure on basis of facts set forth.

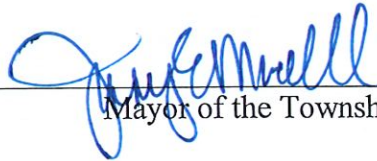


Director of Law-Township Attorney

I hereby certify that the above ordinance was duly adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Bloomfield at a meeting of said Township Council held on May 19, 2025.



Municipal Clerk of the Township of Bloomfield



Mayor of the Township of Bloomfield

✓ Vote Record - Ordinance						
☐ Adopt		Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent	
☐ Deny	Rosalee Gonzalez	☒	☐	☐	☐	
☐ Withdrawn	Nicholas Joanow	☒	☐	☐	☐	
☐ Table	Sarah Cruz	☒	☐	☐	☐	
☐ Not Discussed	Monica Charris Tabares	☒	☐	☐	☐	
☐ First Reading	Wartyna Davis	☒	☐	☐	☐	
☐ Table with no Vote	Widney Polynice	☒	☐	☐	☐	
☐ Approve	Jenny Mundell	☒	☐	☐	☐	
☐ Veto by Mayor						
☐ Discussion						
☐ Defeated						
☐ Discussion No Vote						

✓ Vote Record - Ordinance						
☐ Adopt		Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent	
☐ Deny	Rosalee Gonzalez	☒	☐	☐	☐	
☐ Withdrawn	Nicholas Joanow	☒	☐	☐	☐	
☐ Table	Sarah Cruz	☒	☐	☐	☐	
☐ Not Discussed	Monica Charris Tabares	☒	☐	☐	☐	
☐ First Reading	Wartyna Davis	☒	☐	☐	☐	
☐ Table with no Vote	Widney Polynice	☒	☐	☐	☐	
☐ Approve						
☐ Veto by Mayor						
☐ Discussion						
☐ Defeated						

☐ Discussion No Vote	Jenny Mundell		☒	☐	☐	☐
---	---------------	--	-------------------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------