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## **Peaceful Assembly**

The First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution states:

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

- Under the First Amendment, every citizen has the right to speak and/or assemble in traditional public forums including public parks, streets and sidewalks, subject to certain limitations. Under the Winter Park City Code, peaceful assembly upon public parks, streets, and sidewalks is permissible if access to these areas are not blocked for safe pedestrian and vehicular passage.
- A permit is typically not needed to assemble/march in the streets or on sidewalks, as long as vehicle or pedestrian traffic is not obstructed. Without a permit, law enforcement can ask you to move to the side of a street or sidewalk to let others pass or for safety reasons.
- Certain types of events may require permits including but not limited to:
  - marches or parades that requires blocking traffic or street closure
  - large rallies requiring the use of sound amplifying devices
  - rallies over a certain size at most parks or plazas

## Related information:

- Apply for an Event Permit
- Section 62-79 Prohibition against picketing before or about a dwelling unit