



Acton Special Filming Conditions  
Wednesday, October 10, 2018

1. As a general rule, no permits should be issued to any locations with open code enforcement actions. If there is an open code enforcement action on a property, a permit shall not be issued for filming at that location. However, not all code violations warrant a prohibition on filming. Each is examined on a case by case basis by the Department of Regional Planning or respective Department. Code violations may range from Zoning, Building, Fire and Health code violations. The following departments have the authority to issue Notice of Violations (NOV): (1) Regional Planning (Zoning); (2) Public Works (Building); (3) Fire (Health and Safety); Public Health (Health) For example, a property with a minor plumbing violation does not warrant such an action as prohibiting a permit. Also, those properties with a NOV but are in the process of fixing the problem should not be prohibited.
2. FilmL.A. will evaluate all requests for permits in this area using the following criteria: Frequency of filming per block near the requested location and parking areas – Duration and frequency of recent filming – Proximity of concurrent filming activities – Historical use – Recent problems or complaints – violations of County Code – Number of filming days requested – Company size – Proposed activities (effects, excessive noise, cranes, night filming, number of days with use of outdoor lights, etc.) – any other criteria that may be relevant to the specific situation. **No Permits will be allowed without the above review.**
3. Production companies shall place bi-directional signage for full closures on the affected roads at least 48 hours in advance. Permission from the property owner(s) must be obtained before any signage is placed on private roads.
4. Affected residents must be notified at least two (2) days in advance of the first day of (standard) filming or the first day of any substantial set preparation. Permit requests must be submitted to FilmL.A. at least three (3) full business days in advance. **Notice over an expanded area may be required for special effects or other extraordinary film activities in areas where horses or other livestock are located or when the filming location is in a canyon per County direction.** Additional noticing will continue at local area community centers, libraries, and market centers as well via the Acton Film Notice email list<sup>1</sup>.
5. Production companies will be encouraged to not to exceed a ½ load for all Film Shoots. ¾ and full load may be allowed in circumstances such as where a ½ load impedes the functioning of a required weapon and/or the location is in a secluded area with few residences. Expanded notification within at least a ½ mile of shoot location will occur for special effects such as gunfire. For such activity to occur outside the standard hours of filming, surveys of affected properties will be done with the same radius and assessed before the County will grant permissions.

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<sup>1</sup> Acton Town Council Film Committee agrees to advertise a public notice in area newspapers requesting residents provide emails to FilmLA for inclusion in the Acton Film notice email list.



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6. Within all of the County's Unincorporated Areas, filming activity, including set up and breakdown, occurs within a 7am – 10pm timeframe. However, all requested film activities proposed to occur after 10pm or before 7am are assessed based on surveys collected from directly impacted properties. Gunfire, Lighting, Explosions after 10pm will be scrutinized and encouraged to occur during the 7am - 10pm timeframe. If filming outside standard hours is needed and justified, that request may be granted taking in to consideration the results of community surveys conducted with the same radius stated on Condition #4.
7. Removal by production companies of all directional and notification signs shall be done within 24 hours after shoot.
8. All production must return said locations such as roads to the condition that they found them in. FilmLA will reinforce this requirement as needed and follow up with Production if it is not adhered to. LA County does not have jurisdiction over privately owned roads. The film permit will let the production company know that it is responsible for attaining approvals from owners are needed to use the private roads or easements
9. For use of Drones<sup>2</sup>, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is the entity that regulates the flight of drones and preempts the County's ability to regulate flight of unmanned aircraft. FilmLA always requires production companies to meet FAA requirements for use of drones in order to process permits. If drones are requested as part of the permit, the permit will include language requiring the production to minimize impact to equestrian/livestock areas.
10. Lighting<sup>3</sup> of sets for Film shoots should stay focused within the area of the shoot and must avoid impacting neighboring properties. Any requests for lighting use outside of the 7am – 10pm timeframe will require surveys from affected area residents before approval is given by the County.
11. Road closures<sup>4</sup> are prohibited from 4:30 am to 6:30 am Monday - Friday to facilitate morning peak traffic for the Soledad Canyon Road/Crown Valley Road corridor. Afternoon Hours<sup>5</sup> closures are not prohibited but do require a traffic control plan as the traffic volume during the peak period from 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm is about one

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<sup>2</sup> The County is currently reviewing the extent that it may regulate drones within its jurisdiction. If drones are requested as part of the permit, FilmLA will note it on the Permit to lessen impact to equestrian areas

<sup>3</sup>LA County Dark Skies Ordinance does not apply to temporary lighting. Per LA County Code, temporary outdoor lighting is defined as lighting that does not exceed 60 consecutive days or more than 120 days per year.

<sup>4</sup> DPW completed its traffic study as of October 2018 and has determined traffic data for the Soledad Canyon/Crown Valley corridor. The volume data clearly shows a traffic peak period from 4:30am to 6:30am in the morning. This is consistent for multiple locations along the corridor.

<sup>5</sup> Traffic volume on Crown Valley is very low and there is minimal traffic impact when Soledad Canyon is closed. Overall, the traffic volume on Soledad Cyn is relatively low (2,600 ADT) when compared to Sierra Hwy at Santiago (6,400 ADT).



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third the volume in the morning. All requests for road closures will be evaluated by DPW on a case by case basis with the exception of morning peak hours.

12. Cast and crew shall be informed of the provisions of the Filmmaker's Code of Professional Responsibility.
13. To determine whether a road is privately owned or County Owned, please use <http://dpw.lacounty.gov/gmed/lacroads/Find.aspx> DPW does not maintain private roads or public roads which have not accepted into the road system.
14. FilmLA, with the approval of the County, can deny the permit if they receive information that the notifications were not timely enough to address the concerns of the horse or livestock properties. Depending on the type of filming that is proposed could require a longer notice period up to the five (5) days if explosions or other special filming are planned. Relocation of horse or other livestock, if needed, is at productions expense. Surveys will be done with these property owners to assess negative impacts and those responses are considered and shared with the Permit Authority (DPW) in the approval process. Only the County has the authority to approve a permit.
15. Large trucks and production vehicles are prohibited from unpaved streets/roads. Smaller trucks ("stake beds" and vans) must be used for equipment and personnel movement. Speed limits must be obeyed where posted or 10 mph where not posted. Displacement of dust must be minimized.