



Acton Special Filming Conditions and Guidelines
Thursday, December 12, 2019

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

1. 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 or easements.
2. Removal by production companies of all directional and notification signs shall be done within 24 hours after shoot.
3. Soledad Canyon Road closures¹ are prohibited from 4:30 am to 6:30 am Monday through Friday to facilitate morning peak traffic for the Soledad Canyon Road / Crown Valley Road corridor. Afternoon peak hour² closures may be required when conditions warrant. All requests for road closures require a traffic control plan and restrictions on road closures will be evaluated by DPW on a case by case basis.
4. 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.
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.
6. For use of drones, the production company shall comply with all FAA requirements and minimize impact to equestrian/livestock areas.

GUIDELINES

1. As a general rule, permits will not 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)

¹ Per the DPW traffic data analysis for the Soledad Canyon/Crown Valley corridor completed October 2018, the volume data indicates a weekday traffic peak period from 4:30am to 6:30am.

² Weekday afternoon traffic on Soledad Canyon is uniform. The afternoon "peak hour" traffic volume (4:30pm – 6:30pm) is 67% lower than the morning peak volume.



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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. FilmLA evaluates 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. A FilmLA monitor may be required on a shoot for highly sensitive areas where there have been consistent documented community concerns. The need for a Film Monitor will be evaluated on case by case basis. **No Permits will be allowed without the above review.**
3. 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. Permit requests must be submitted to FilmLA 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.** Additional noticing will continue at local area community centers, libraries, and market centers as well via the Acton Film Notice email list³.
4. Within all County Unincorporated Areas, filming activity, including set up and breakdown, is restricted to the 7am – 10pm timeframe. Filming activities proposed outside the standard hours are subject to an assessment of the surveys collected from the impacted properties. Proposed gunfire and explosions outside the standard hours are not recommended and subject to the assessment of the community surveys conducted within the expanded half mile radius.
5. FilmLA, with the approval of the County, may deny the permit if they receive information that the notifications were not timely to address the concerns of the horse or livestock properties. Explosions, gunfire and other filming activities which may affect equine or require a longer notice period of up to five (5) days. Relocation of equine or other livestock, if needed, is at production's expense. FilmLA will instruct productions to survey these property owners to assess any negative impacts. The responses are analyzed by FilmLA and those results are shared with the County via the OPS system.

³ 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. Lighting⁴ 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.
7. All production must restore filming locations such as roads to their original condition. FilmLA will reinforce this requirement as needed and follow up with Production if it is not adhered to. Since LA County does not have jurisdiction over private roads, the production company is responsible for obtaining permission from the owner(s) to use the private roads or easements.
8. Cast and crew shall be familiar with the provisions of the Filmmaker's Code of Professional Responsibility.
9. Public Works does not maintain private roads or public roads which have not been accepted into the road system. To determine if a road is County maintained, visit <http://dpw.lacounty.gov/gmed/lacroads/Find.aspx>.
10. For use of Drones⁵, 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 requires production companies to meet FAA requirements for use of drones to process permits. If drones are used, the permit will include language requiring the production to minimize impact to equestrian/livestock areas.

⁴LA 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.

⁵ 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