

Musician Loading Zones in Other Cities

What do musician loading zones look like in other cities? Here's a quick overview.

Austin

- Permits are \$25, requested and paid for by the venue. Venue can have up to 2 permits.
- Musicians can use designated musician loading zones (not any loading zone) for to 30 minutes, and must use their emergency flashers.
- Only businesses that have live performances can get a permit. The venue is in charge of distributing the permits.

Link to Musician Loading Zone Permit application:

<http://www.austintexas.gov/sites/default/files/files/Transportation/Parking/Musician>Loading MLZ.pdf>

More information: <http://www.austintexas.gov/page/musician-loading-permits>

Seattle

- Started with a pilot program for 5 venues in 2014
- Loading zones run from 4PM to 4AM
- Venue must meet Exemption from Admission Tax for Live Music Venues (occupancy of 999 or less; presents live music on at least three (3) separate days per week on a regular schedule, must hire one or more musician to perform at least 16 individual performances per week)

In 2014, Seattle implemented a low-cost, phased approach to make it easier for musician load-in and load-out at live music venues around the city. Five music venues were selected to pilot the program, and nearby load and unload zones were modified to prioritize musicians' use through branded signs. They include a yellow regulatory sign and City of Music™ branded 'Priority Musicians Loading & Unloading' sign. Phase one serves the following five music venues: High Dive (Fremont), The Crocodile and Tula's (Belltown), The Triple Door (Downtown), and The Showbox (Pike Place Market). Plans are currently underway to implement additional Musicians Priority Load Zones in other areas of the city.

(from <https://www.seattle.gov/filmandmusic/music/city-of-music-programs>)

More information: <http://murray.seattle.gov/musicians-priority-loading-zones-come-to-seattle-a-city-of-music-partnership-to-increase-safety-and-access-for-local-musicians/>

Portland

- Permits are free and issued to musicians through an online form, the Musicians Union, or MusicPortland
- Permits are removable, to protect gear from theft
- Allow loading and unloading in 16 identified and marked zones only

Portland has a full website for their loading zones, which includes rules and a map of locations: <https://pdxmusicloading.com/>

More information: <https://www.vrtxmag.com/articles/musician-loading-zones-launch-in-portland/>

Raleigh

- Issued to venues, which pay \$25 per permit
- Can use zone for up to 30 minutes, 5PM to 3AM
- Pilot program started in 2015 with 5 venues

More information: <https://www.bizjournals.com/triangle/news/2015/10/20/raleigh-to-consider-special-parking-permits-for.html>

Madison, WI

- Signs attached to existing poles to create zones close to venues
- 7 pilot locations
- Zones are available from 6PM to 3AM

More information: https://madison.com/ct/news/local/city-life/madison-pilot-program-sets-aside-dedicated-musician-loading-zones/article_ece1b394-014a-583c-9d03-35b52ee8165c.html