



# CHURCH STREET MARKETPLACE

To: Church Street Marketplace Commission  
From: Andrew Bacher, Marketplace Coordinator  
CC: Kara Alnasrawi, Director; Samantha McGinnis, Assistant Director  
Date: January 15, 2025

## **Re: Changing Requirements for Travelling Performer's Permits**

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The Church Street Marketplace offers a unique venue for performers to showcase their art through the Street Entertainer Program. Church Street buskers are given an opportunity to perform on the busiest street in Vermont for a relatively low cost and Church Street benefits from the added street activations.

The Marketplace charges fees on street entertainers to offset the admin costs associated with processing their applications. Fees are tiered based on the four categories performers can apply for: Annual License, Young Performer, Circle Act, and Travelling Performer.

In order to encourage more buskers to apply, Marketplace staff recommends changing the rules surrounding Travelling Performer's Permit in the following ways:

1. Remove the requirement for the performers to be booked at local venues in order to apply for this permit.
2. Allow performers to apply for a single day permit, limiting the amount of permits to 10 per year.
3. Charge \$20 per permit to offset the admin cost of processing the application.

Marketplace staff believes that adjusting the Travelling Performer's Permit requirements will benefit buskers as well as the success of the Marketplace for two specific reasons:

**1. Bringing more performers to Church Street:**

By broadening the requirements of the Travelling Performers Permit, we aim to inspire more buskers to perform on Church Street to engage visitors and activate the street.

**2. Lack of utilization of Travelling Performers Permit:**

Due to the specific requirements needed to apply for this type of permit, very few people qualify for a Travelling Performer's Permit. Because of this, no Travelling Performer's Permits were issued during the 2024 season.

**Action:**

Marketplace staff request the Commission to approve adjusting the Travelling Performers Permit description to the following:

Applicants can request to perform for a single day on the Marketplace. Upon approval, a license will be issued naming the performer and expiring on the date of the performance. The performer must apply for a new permit in order to perform again. Limit of 10 Travelling Performers Permit Licenses per year.