

PAPAL VISIT BUSINESS RESOURCE CENTER FAQs

1. Should my business close in the days leading up to and including the World Meeting of Families?

We are not advising businesses in any part of the city to close. In fact most areas will likely not notice any difference until Friday evening when the 'Traffic Box' goes into effect. Businesses that are close to the Benjamin Franklin Parkway and Independence Hall should obviously expect a large number of people to congregate on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, which may make access difficult. Within the Secure Perimeter no vehicles will be allowed and pedestrians will need to pass through magnetometers. Within the Secure Vehicle Perimeter no vehicles will be allowed. We are working on a plan for businesses that are located on Authorized Vehicle Routes.

2. Will my employees be able to access buildings within the Traffic Box, Secure Vehicle Perimeter and Secure Perimeter?

Yes. For buildings within the Secure Perimeter additional security measures will be in place and the U.S. Secret Service has been working directly with building owners and businesses to make the necessary arrangements.

3. Will I be able to receive deliveries during the weekend?

Given the number of people expected to Philadelphia and restrictions on traffic movement within the Traffic Box we strongly encourage businesses to have all necessary deliveries completed by 6pm on Friday. We are developing a plan for limited, essential delivery access during the weekend. If there is a need for delivery Saturday-Sunday please give us your information and we will take the request to the necessary authorities.

4. Will there be commercial trash pickup?

We strongly encourage you to store your trash over the weekend if you have the ability. We are developing a plan for limited commercial trash pickup during the weekend which will be made public shortly. There will be no residential trash pickup Thursday-Monday citywide.

5. How can I get a license to vend within the traffic box?

Anyone wishing to do business within the City of Philadelphia needs to obtain a Commercial Activity License and comply with all other regulations including the boundaries of the Center City and University City Special Vending Districts. If you do not already have a Special Vending District license the areas within the Traffic Box are off-limits. This is no different for the weekend of the World Meeting of Families.

If you obtain a Commercial Activity License and a Sidewalk Sales License you are eligible to vend in Philadelphia anywhere EXCEPT for within special vending districts or other street as prohibited by law. You can see those on this map showing prohibited streets and special districts for vending:

<http://www.phila.gov/map/#id=13ac2cb0ed41499d9e941a0b5705ce37/>

6. I am currently licensed to vend at a location within the traffic box, will I be allowed to vend at my usual location?

If you have the necessary licenses and satisfy the normal City regulations you will be allowed to vend as usual with the caveats that vehicles will not be allowed to leave and re-enter the traffic box. However if your vending location is within the Secure Vehicle Perimeter you will not be allowed access to vend.

7. What are the public transportation restrictions?

SEPTA and NJ Transit have published their transportation plans for the World Meeting of Families. Please check their respective websites at www.septa.org and www.njtransit.org.

8. Should we hire extra security, stock extra supplies, etc.?

You should take whatever extra steps you think are necessary for your particular business. We are not advising individual businesses but simply letting people know the facts about number of visitors expected and the restrictions on the movement of people and vehicles.

9. When will everything be back to normal?

We will do our best to have the City back to normal as quickly as possible. We ask for residents/businesses patience as there will be a significant amount of equipment/fencing to remove and areas to clean.

10. Will taxis and legally authorized car services be allowed to operate within and in/out of the traffic box?

A full plan regarding taxis and legally authorized car services will be announced in the near future but we can tell you that taxis will be allowed to enter the traffic box until 2am on Saturday, 27 ADA compliant taxis will operate throughout in the traffic box in addition to SEPTA's CCT vehicles, and beginning 3am on Monday we will have taxi stands in the Traffic Box to service people needing to get to the Airport for early flights.

11. What about emergency repairs – elevators, windows, etc.?

We will have more information on that in the near future.