



Car Rally Q and A

Effective March 26, 2024

What is an unauthorized car rally?

Car rallies without a special events permit are NOT allowed in Vaughan. Unauthorized car rallies typically involve people gathering with their modified vehicles to do stunts. They can involve taking over private property, like parking lots, or roads.

Is a classic car show considered an unauthorized car rally?

Any event that does not have a special events permit is NOT allowed in Vaughan. Special event permits will not be granted to any car rallies that include contests, stunts or street-takeovers. Special events in Vaughan must meet the City's and its partnering agencies' standards to help ensure the safety, security and well-being of event participants, organizers and the public. Learn more about [hosting an event in Vaughan](#).

Why are unauthorized car rallies prohibited in Vaughan?

Unauthorized car rallies are disruptive to the quality of life in Vaughan and pose a significant risk to community safety. These events often come with excessive noise, speeding, stunt driving and blocking or impeding motor or pedestrian traffic.

The City is committed to fostering a community that is inclusive, accessible, respectful and safe for everyone. The City continues to prioritize public safety for everyone who lives in, works in and visits Vaughan. The City works collaboratively with York Regional Police (YRP), other organizations and all levels of government to ensure community safety.

What is the City doing to address these unauthorized car rallies?

During the March 26, 2024 Council meeting, Vaughan Council approved changes to the City of Vaughan's [Special Events By-law](#) (PDF) and [Noise By-law](#) (PDF) to prohibit any participation in unauthorized car rallies. The City, in collaboration with YRP, will enforce the by-law amendment effective immediately. To learn more, read the [March 19, 2024 Committee of the Whole \(2\) report](#).

How can I report unauthorized car rallies?

- To report a suspected unauthorized car rally in Vaughan, call Service Vaughan at 905-832-2281.
- To report non-emergencies to YRP, call 1-866-876-5423.
- If you have immediate safety concerns, call 9-1-1.



How was the Special Events By-law amended to address unauthorized car rallies?

The [Special Events By-law 047-2024](#) (PDF) was amended to prohibit any participation in unauthorized car rallies, including:

- sponsoring, collecting money for, co-ordinating, advertising or hosting an unauthorized car rally.
- spectating, attending or bringing a vehicle to an unauthorized car rally.
- driving or riding as a passenger in a motor vehicle at an unauthorized car rally.
- stopping, slowing or impeding the movement of traffic, including pedestrian traffic, as a consequence of an unauthorized car rally.
- being a vendor at an unauthorized car rally.

How was the Noise By-law amended to address unauthorized car rallies?

The [Noise By-law 046-2024](#) (PDF) was amended to prohibit anyone from emitting, causing or permitting noise from an unauthorized car rally.

What are the fines for participating in an unauthorized car rally?

The maximum fine associated with participating in an unauthorized car rally is \$10,000, and the City and YRP can also issue administrative penalties of \$1,000 for a first offence and \$2,000 for any subsequent offence. This includes anyone having a motor vehicle at, sponsoring, collecting money for, co-ordinating, advertising, hosting or being a vendor at an unauthorized car rally. Any person spectating, attending, or riding as a passenger in a motor vehicle at an unauthorized car rally may be fined up to \$10,000 or may receive an administrative penalty of \$500.

The maximum fine associated with breaking the Noise By-law is \$5,000. Any person emitting, causing or permitting sound or noise from a car rally may be fined or receive an administrative penalty of \$1,000 for a first offence and \$2,000 for any subsequent offence. This includes causing or permitting unnecessary noise from a motor vehicle, such as honking, revving an engine or squealing tires, or does not use a muffler or other device that prevents loud or explosive noises from a vehicle at an unauthorized car rally.

What role do plaza property owners have in preventing unauthorized car rallies?

Hosting or allowing an unauthorized car rally to take place on your property is prohibited in Vaughan and subject to a minimum fine of \$1,000 for a first offence and \$2,000 for any subsequent offence. Property owners are responsible for preventing unauthorized



events from taking place on their property and reporting if any unauthorized events do occur.

How are plaza property owners being educated about the by-law amendments to prohibit unauthorized car rallies?

In collaboration with YRP, the City will be working with local plaza owners to outline their role and responsibilities pertaining to the by-law, and how they can help deter unauthorized car rally events from taking place on their properties. Property owners will receive a letter from the City with detailed information and an invitation to attend a technical briefing to learn more. The City will share a sign template property owners can download and install at their properties to educate residents that unauthorized car rallies are not allowed in Vaughan.

How can I apply for a Special Events Permit?

To apply for a special events permit, you can use the online [Licensing Portal](#), or submit in-person, by mail, drop-box or email using the [Special Event and Film Permit application form](#) (PDF). To learn more about hosting an event in Vaughan, visit vaughan.ca/events.

Where can I go for more information?

For more information:

- visit vaughan.ca/CarRallies.
- read the [Special Events By-law 047-2024](#) (PDF) and [Noise By-law 046-2024](#) (PDF).
- read the [March 19, 2024 Committee of the Whole \(2\) report](#).
- call Service Vaughan at 905-832-2281.