

Collin County Policy on First Amendment-Protected Activities

“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.”

The right of freedom of expression on County-owned property includes peaceful protests and orderly demonstrations. At the same time, the right to protest and demonstrate does not include the right to engage in conduct that disrupts the County's operations or endangers the safety of others.

Demonstrations, protests or other First Amendment- Protected Activities can have various impacts on the operations of County government. They can adversely affect the normal delivery of County services. These events can also pose a threat to the safety and security of County employees and members of the public when coming to, using and departing from County property.

For these reasons, conduct of members of the public that is disruptive of the operations of the County, including interference with County administrative and business operations, is prohibited and is subject to legal action, including potential criminal sanctions.

Policy on Demonstrations, Protests, and Rallies

Demonstrations, protests, and rallies must be requested through the County Judge at seventy-two (72) hours prior to the event. The following regulations must be followed:

- a. Requests must be in writing and must specify the purpose, location, date, and time of the demonstration, protest, or rally and include an estimate of the number of persons expected to participate in the event as well as the estimated number of people the event organizers expect to attract to the event.
- b. Organizers must have all necessary city permits as required by city ordinance prior to the event. The County Judge may request a meeting with the Organizers to review the application and this policy prior to approval.
- c. The County Judge will attempt to notify the Organizers within 48 hours of the submission of a request whether the Organizers' application is approved and any conditions that may apply to such an approval. A copy of the County Judge's approval and any required city permits should be maintained at the location of the demonstration and be made available for review upon request from any Collin County official.
- d. Organizers and participants at such events must not:
 1. block pedestrian or vehicular traffic;
 2. directly confront passersby;

3. block building entrances or exits;
 4. locate themselves on city streets or sidewalks without a city permit if such is required for the location at issue;
 5. interfere with the public's ability to conduct normal County-related business, e.g. property actions, motor vehicle registration, paying property taxes, etc.
- e. Organizers must:
1. abide by the pre-approved beginning and ending times as set forth in the County Judge's approval notification;
 2. confine the event to the pre-approved location;
 3. notify Collin County Sheriff's Office and/or local police department of the event and arrange for Public Safety presence if needed;
 4. clean up the area before departing the event, including the removal of all event-related trash, signs, and debris
 5. adhere to city ordinances and applicable state and federal law.

Place and Time

- a. Demonstrations and assemblies are permitted outside of County buildings in public places. Designated locations for outdoor demonstrations are attached.
- b. Indoor demonstrations and assemblies within County facilities are not allowed.
- c. The approval of any specific location will always be subject to accommodation of planned or ongoing County activities and any relevant physical conditions and safety issues.
- d. Protests and demonstrations normally are permitted until or unless the County Judge determines that County operations have been compromised and/or the rights of others have been significantly infringed. Interference with County-related business is viewed as particularly disruptive and will be grounds for termination of the event, including possible arrest and prosecution for violations of local, state or federal statutes.

Manner

- a. Demonstrations and assemblies may not:
 1. prevent or disrupt other County activities or County business;

2. prevent or interfere with the ability of other members of the community, visitors or guests to conduct County business or have access to County facilities;
 3. engage in, or threaten, physical violence or destruction of County or private property;
 4. jeopardize the safety and/or security of County staff or members of the public.
- b. Signs affixed to poles or sticks are not permitted. Signs that are not affixed to sticks or poles are permitted. Placards, banners, and signs generally are allowed but may not be dangerous for others or impede the participation of others in conducting their affairs, including County business.
 - c. Tents, tarps, and all other forms of camping equipment are prohibited.
 - d. Alcoholic beverages and the use of controlled substances are prohibited.
 - e. Participants in demonstrations and assemblies must carry official and current government identification cards or State-issued identification at all times and shall present such identification to officials upon request.
 - f. Law enforcement may monitor the demonstration for purposes of preserving orderly conduct and public safety and, at their discretion, may install barricades for the protection and safety of the demonstrators, those assembled, and/or the general public.

Policy and Procedures for Spontaneous Demonstrations and Assemblies

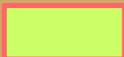
Collin County recognizes there may be occasions that do not permit the submission of an application 72 hours in advance of a demonstration or assembly. Such spontaneous demonstrations or assemblies in response to emergent situations where advance planning is not possible are permitted, but they are limited in location to: a) the County Courthouse or b) the Hatchell Administration Building. Any individual, group or organization calling for or organizing such a demonstration or assembly must report that information immediately to the County Judge, and comply with the time, place and manner provisions set forth in this Policy.

Applicability and Violations

This Policy applies to all First Amendment-Protected activities conducted on Collin County property. All persons involved in or attending a demonstration or assembly must adhere to this Policy, as well as other applicable Federal, State, and local laws. Violators will be subject to potential criminal prosecution. In addition, Collin County employees who are found to be in violation of this Policy will be subject to disciplinary action under applicable Collin County personnel policies.



Animal Services



Free Speech Area

4750 Community Ave





Collin County Administration



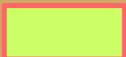
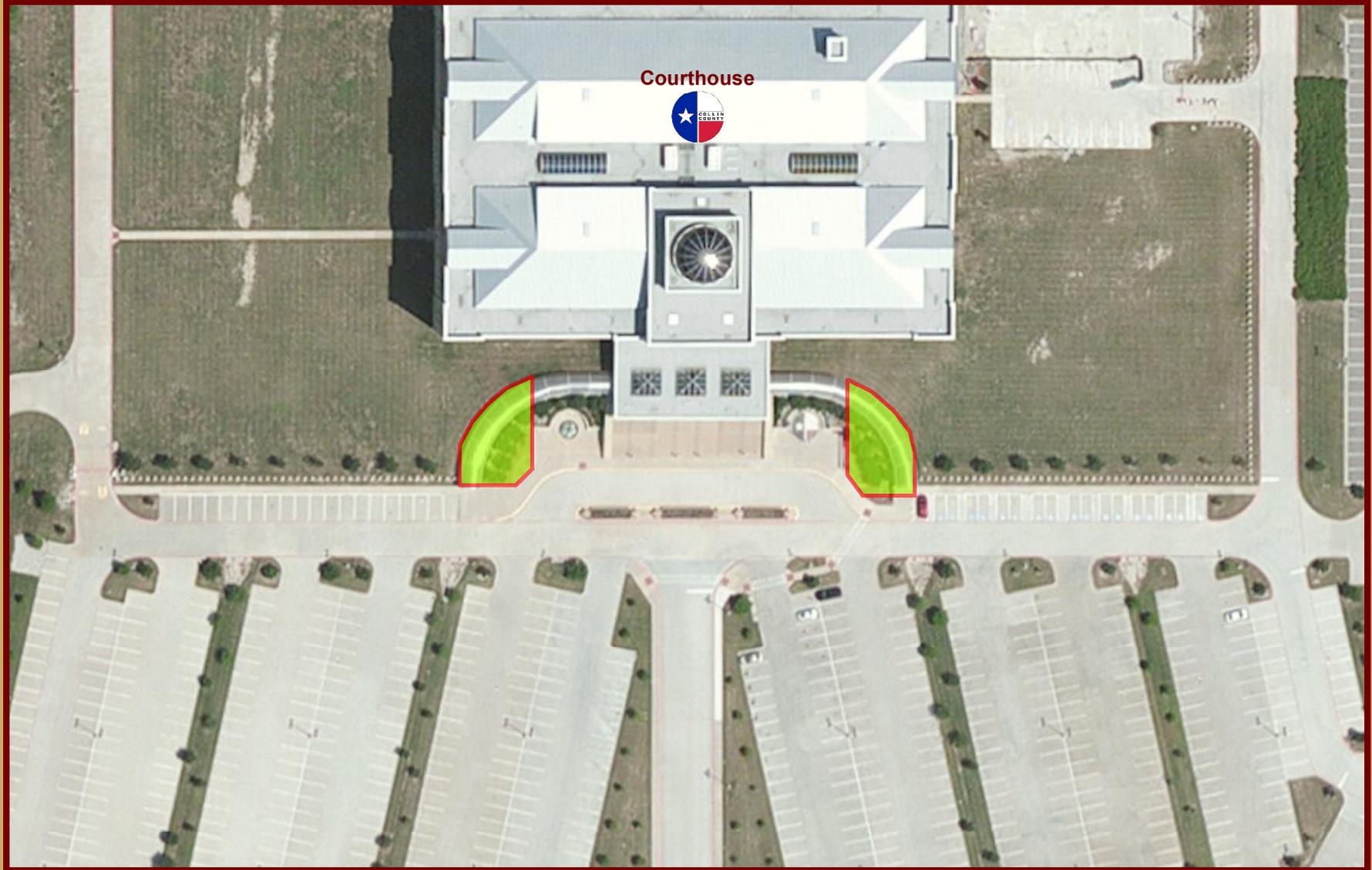
Free Speech Area

2300 Bloomdale Rd, 75071



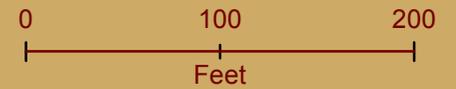


Collin County Courthouse



Free Speech Areas

2100 Bloomdale Rd, 75071





Farmersville JP

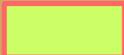


JP/Constable 2



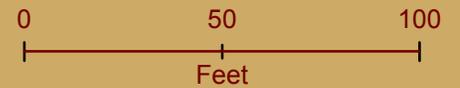
Raymond St

W Audie Murphy Pkwy



Free Speech Area

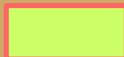
406A Raymond St, 75442





Frisco JP



 Free Speech Area

8585 John Wesley Dr., Ste. 130



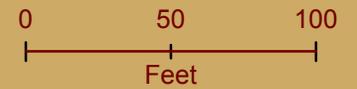


Health Care Services



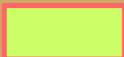
Free Speech Area

825 McDonald., Ste. 130





Juvenile Detention Center



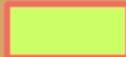
Free Speech Area

4700 Community Ave



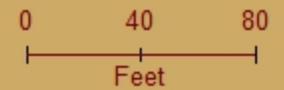


Plano - 900 Building



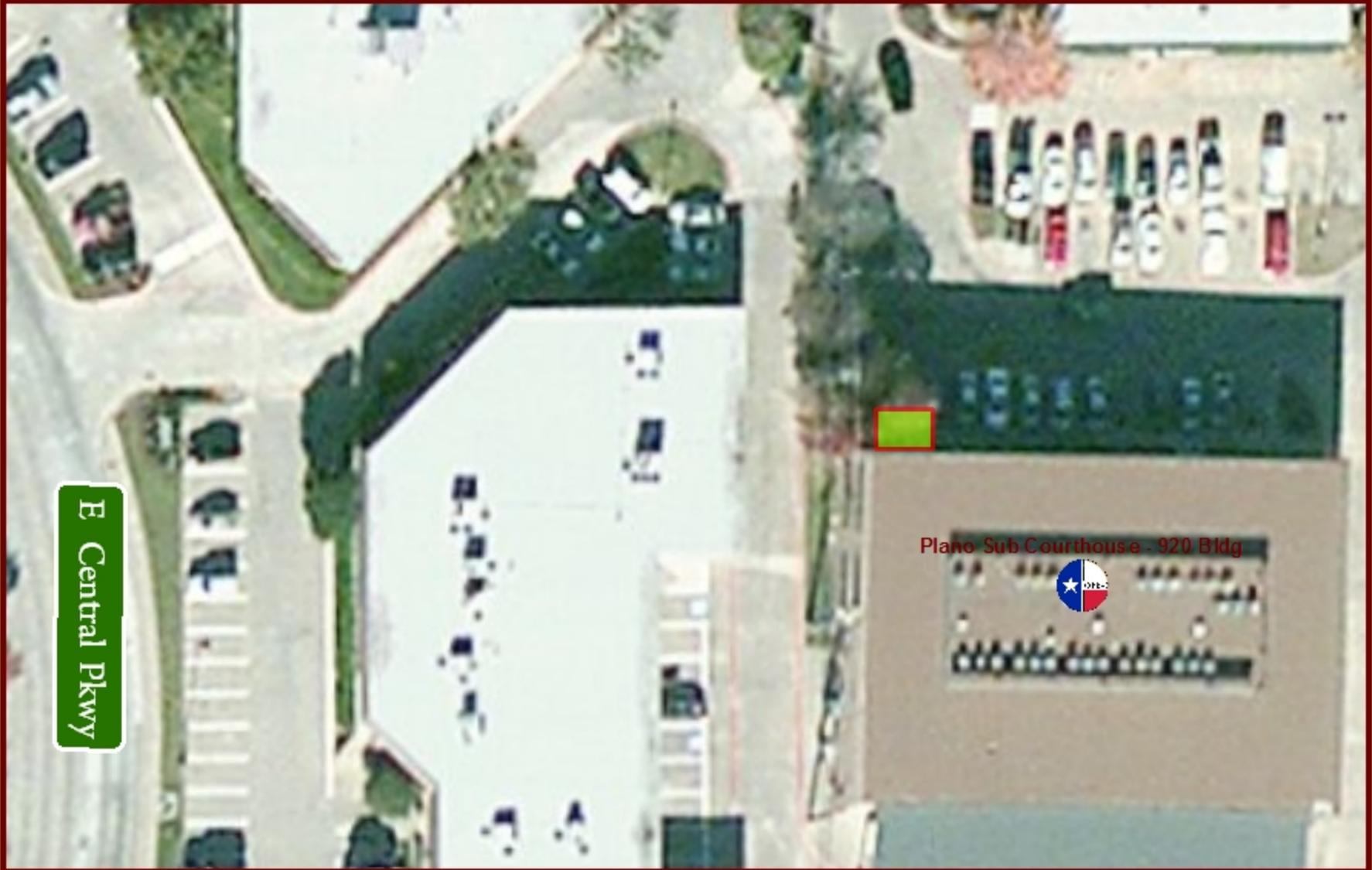
Free Speech Area

900 E Park Blvd., Ste. 140 C, 75074



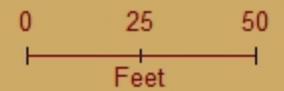


Plano - 920 Building



Free Speech Area

920 E Park Blvd, 75074





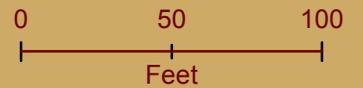
Plano-Collin County Clerk



WIC Plano Office
Plano Sub Courthouse - 900 Bldg

 Free Speech Area

900 E Park Blvd., Ste. 140 C, 75074





Plano-Collin County Tax Office



Free Speech Area

920 E Park Blvd, 75074





Public Work Service Center

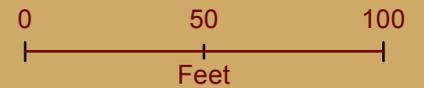


Public Works Service Center



Free Speech Area

700 Wilmeth Rd 75071





Sheriff's Office



Free Speech Area

4300 Community Ave.
McKinney, TX 75071

