Tourism News

Newark launches Approval – an online permit system for special events, film and tours

Ralph Burger · 3 seconds ago 0 · 2 minutes read

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(Newark, NJ) — on July 13, 2022, Newark Mayor Ras J. Baraka announced the launch of Approval, an online permission platform that will be used to process applications for special events, block parties, First Amendment gatherings and film permits. The city moved to an automated platform to streamline the permitting process, reduce complexity, eliminate paper and save time spent in meetings.

Mayor Baraka said, "Using this platform will enable us to rapidly deploy support for complex permit types and improve efficiency." "As a forward-thinking city, we have embraced the new trend in securing online software while covering costs and allowing for the flexibility to add further authorization processes that meet the needs of our departments. It will allow us to provide excellent customer service to residents and continue to make Newark a technology-friendly city."

Newark opted to go with a purpose-built solution for special events. The platform is accessible to applicants and reviewers anytime, anywhere, and supports the COVID protocol. This means anyone seeking a permit can go online and apply without entering the office.

Eproval is unique in its ability to coordinate multiple concurrent workflows. Most other traditional permitting platforms or workarounds are based on sequential workflows. This is not ideal because permit applications do not follow a linear process.

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The city needed a workflow that could coordinate multiple internal and external reviewers such as city workers, police, fire, parks and recreation, and public works and sanitation. The new platform will help accelerate the overall timeline by automating multiple concurrent steps in the application process. Applicants will also enjoy a feature for recurring events that allows fields to be pre-populated with the click of a mouse.

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"City of Newark employees were familiar with the success of Eproval in allowing automated permissions for event offices. They had a good understanding of the challenge they were facing and that coordinating multiple stakeholders is not easy. They value that, knew what Eproval could bring to the table," said Jonathan Thompson, managing director of Approval. "We really see this as a partnership where we can continue to deliver value by automating other permission requirements and providing knowledge and expertise."

The new platform is available for the application and can be accessed Here.

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