



# Memorandum

**TO:** PUBLIC SAFETY, FINANCE AND  
STRATEGIC SUPPORT COMMITTEE

**FROM:** Robert Sapien, Jr.  
Anthony Mata  
Chris Burton  
Rob Lloyd

**SUBJECT:** FIREWORKS ORDINANCE  
WORK PLAN STATUS REPORT

**DATE:** August 4, 2021

Approved

Date

8-11-21

## RECOMMENDATION

Accept the status report on the implementation of the Fireworks Ordinance Work Plan Post-Fourth of July 2021.

## BACKGROUND

In 1984, the City Council voted to amend the Municipal Code banning all fireworks, including “safe and sane” fireworks with the exception of controlled public fireworks displays operated by a licensed pyrotechnician pursuant to a permit by the Fire Department.

In August 2014, the City Council directed the City Manager to make changes to fireworks enforcement after several years of increasing noise and safety complaints from residents. Both the Fire and Police Departments were directed to look for options that might slow and eventually contain the illegal sale, use, possession, and storage of fireworks. In June 2015, the City Council directed staff to establish a framework to cite, fine, and adjudicate the use, possession, sale, advertisement for sale, transportation, and/or manufacturing of fireworks. The Council also directed staff to explore the use of Administrative Citations in addition to criminal charges. On April 12, 2016, the Council adopted an ordinance amending San José Municipal Code (SJMC) Section 10.17 to prohibit the sale, use, possession, and storage of fireworks and to provide for civil liability under certain circumstances for those persons responsible for minors who violate the ordinance. The Council also established administrative fines for fireworks-related violations. The City established the Fireworks Ordinance Work Plan to slow and reduce the illegal sale, use, possession, and storage of fireworks and improve outreach, education, and enforcement efforts.

### ***Fireworks Ordinance Work Plan***

As part of the Fireworks Ordinance Work Plan, staff implemented numerous strategies between 2016 and 2019 to mitigate the use of fireworks and increase awareness such as the development of a robust marketing and outreach campaign; a community online fireworks reporting tool; enhanced mitigation and enforcement strategies; regular reporting to the Public Safety, Finance, and Strategic Support (PSFSS) Committee; and multiple Department coordination efforts including the Fire Department, Police Department, Planning, Building and Code Enforcement, the City Attorney's Office, and the City Manager's Office of Communications. Past efforts included the establishment of a dedicated phone line for reporting illegal fireworks activity; a new advance deposit hardship waiver qualification criteria for all Administrative Citations; establishment of "Education and Outreach, Reporting, and Enforcement" as major work plan components; and goals to reduce the number of fireworks-related injuries and fires, increase the number of actionable reports, and decrease the number of illegal fireworks hotspots.

During 2019, staff enhanced and expanded community outreach and messaging. A permit was issued to a licensed pyrotechnician for a commercial display conducted at a shopping plaza which has historically been a hotspot for illegal fireworks usage at lunar new year celebrations. In addition to banner displays, Social Media Kits for campaign messaging were provided to the City's 33 fire stations. School electronic billboards were also used for the first time as part of the outreach campaign. Planning, Building and Code Enforcement Department – Code Enforcement Division conducted the first Fireworks Customer Survey, which surveyed users of the online reporting tool on their user experience and provided follow-up with residents whose reports resulted in the issuance of a Warning Notice or Citation. Staff also began regular reporting at the Neighborhoods Commission, an advisory committee to the City Council regarding San José neighborhoods.

In 2020, due to limitations related to the COVID-19 pandemic and Santa Clara County Public Health shelter-in-place orders, outreach was limited. Additionally, Fireworks (Fire) Permits were not issued during the shelter-in-place period because gatherings were not allowed under the County's Public Health Orders. Fireworks mitigation efforts were delivered primarily through social media including multi-lingual public safety advisory videos, targeted social media outreach, and use of organizational platforms to reach the broadest possible audience in 2020.

### ***2020 Fourth of July and New Fireworks Ordinance Work Plan Action Items***

On October 27, 2020, staff provided a Fireworks Ordinance Work Plan Status Report to City Council on the illegal fireworks campaign and enforcement strategy and outcome of the 2020 Fourth of July reporting period. City Council approved the status report and directed staff to complete several new action items, as follows: <sup>1,2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> [Memorandum from Jimenez, Jones and Davis, 10/23/2020](#)

<sup>2</sup> [Memorandum from Mayor and Peralez, 10/23/2020](#)

- 1) Update Fireworks Ordinance to include Social Host Ordinance.
- 2) Explore making the online reporting tool more accessible to mobile users, redesign the tool to ensure that users are more aware of the information needed for an enforceable citation, and evaluate the suitability and feasibility for integration to the San José 311 Application.
- 3) Return to Council before the end of 2020 with a list of recommended next applications to be included in the next San José 311 upgrade with a description of any additional resources required.
- 4) Reinstate the Fireworks Ordinance Work Plan in the Public Safety, Finance, and Strategic Services (PSFSS) Committee Work Plan and cross-reference the report to the full Council by May 2021.
- 5) Reevaluate the protocols for issuing citations.
- 6) Evaluate the use of drones as an enforcement tool.
- 7) Compare fines across the Bay Area and bring proposed increased fine amounts to Council by the end of 2020.
- 8) Collaborate with County, State, and Federal partners on legislation to ban the use of fireworks and increase the punishment for violators. Engage with neighboring cities such as Morgan Hill and Gilroy to encourage countywide bans and prevent fireworks sold and used in these cities from entering San José.
- 9) Search for potential State and Federal funding sources to invest in enforcement mechanisms and programs to deter fireworks use.
- 10) Evaluate potential funding for reinstatement of the Fireworks Hotspot Enforcement Pilot for July 4, 2021.
- 11) Evaluate current educational campaigns for cultural competency.

Progress updates on these items are provided below.

A timeline of the City's history of policy and enforcement actions on illegal fireworks is provided in Attachment A, "Illegal Fireworks Activities Timeline". A summary of data related to regulatory and enforcement efforts related to illegal fireworks is provided in Attachment B, "Fourth of July Summary".

## **ANALYSIS**

This memorandum provides an update on the new Fireworks Ordinance Work Plan action items and summarizes illegal fireworks mitigation activities related to Fourth of July 2021.

The Fireworks Ordinance Work Plan Team is comprised of staff from the Fire, Police, Information Technology, Planning, Building and Code Enforcement Departments and the City Manager's Office of Communications. The team collaborated to plan and execute the efforts described below. Due to the additional work plan direction and jurisdictional scope needed to collaborate with other outside agencies and governments, additional collaboration was required.

### **New Fireworks Ordinance Work Plan Action Items**

On October 27, 2020, staff provided a Fireworks Ordinance Work Plan Status Report to City Council providing an update on the fireworks campaign, enforcement strategy, and outcome of the 2020 Fourth of July reporting period. City Council accepted the status report and directed staff to complete several new action items as part of the work plan. The status of each action item is provided below.

#### ***Work Plan Items Directed by Council on October 27, 2020 – Completed:***

- 1) *Update Fireworks Ordinance to include Social Host Ordinance:* The City Attorney's Office completed an amendment to the Fireworks Ordinance to include Social Host responsibility that was approved by City Council on May 25, 2021 and went into effect June 25, 2021.
- 3) *Return to Council before the end of 2020 with a list of recommended next applications to be included in the next San José 311 upgrade with a description of any additional resources required:* This direction was accomplished through the San José 311 Report and Digital Strategy Roadmap item brought forward at the January 5, 2021 City Council Meeting. The conclusions of this report regarding the fireworks reporting tool are discussed in greater detail in the next section.
- 4) *Reinstate the Fireworks Ordinance Work Plan in the PSFSS Committee Work Plan and cross-reference report to full Council by May 2021:* This has been completed for the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 Work Plans. The cross-reference to City Council occurred on May 11, 2021.
- 5) *Reevaluate the protocols for issuing citations:* The due process requirements for firework citation issuance have been reviewed by the City Attorney's Office. Citations may be issued when there is sufficient evidence to find that a violation of the San José Municipal Code has occurred and to identify the responsible party.
- 6) *Evaluate the use of drones as an enforcement tool:* The use of drones as an enforcement tool has been evaluated. The identity of the violator is a crucial component to support a

citation. Using the drone in nighttime settings can result in unusable images. Even with a clear facial image and clear violating actions, more follow-up is necessary to identify the identity of the violator. Additionally, logistical challenges exist involving piloting, equipment safety, proximity, and video capture of fireworks ordinance violations that make this a problematic solution for nighttime surveillance of illegal fireworks use. Drones will be considered for other potential roles in the future as they arise.

- 7) *Compare fines across the Bay Area and bring proposed increased fine amounts to Council by the end of 2020:* The Fire Department recommended to Council changes to the City's fines following comparison of fine amounts among Bay Area and similarly-sized large cities in the United States and based upon the setback to fireworks abatement efforts experienced in 2020. On December 15, 2020, Council voted to approve a resolution to increase fine amounts from \$500 to \$1,000 for first violations of the fireworks ordinance in SJMC Section 10.17, Part 2 and escalating to \$2,000 and \$3,000 for subsequent violations.
  
- 10) *Evaluate potential funding for reinstatement of the Fireworks Hotspot Enforcement Pilot for July 4, 2021:* Funding was obtained to reinstate the Fireworks Hotspot Enforcement Plan for July 4, 2021. The Police Department developed an enforcement plan that made use of both uniformed and non-uniformed officers. Non-uniformed officers conducted operations to curtail the illegal buying and selling of fireworks within the city limits approximately one month prior to the event date. Uniformed and non-uniformed officers enforced fireworks violations the weekend before and the weekend of the Fourth of July. Officers focused their attention on areas known for the high use of illegal fireworks, based on complaint data and Police Department Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) data. Uniformed officers also enforced firework violations on the Fourth of July. Identified fireworks hotspots (i.e. parking lots, parks, schools, etc.) were monitored by marked police units and uniformed officers before the crowds gathered. Officers remained in the area to prevent the congregation of large crowds. During each enforcement operation, officers collected images and/or videos which was used for a Public Safety Announcement (PSA). The purpose of PSA was to educate and deter these actions as well as promote the use of the fireworks reporting website. The PSA was broadcasted on social media platforms a couple of weeks before the Fourth of July. These enforcement efforts were accomplished with a blend of off-duty staff working in an overtime capacity and on-duty patrol staff.

***Work Plan Items Directed by Council on October 27, 2020 – In Progress:***

- 2) *Explore making the online reporting tool more accessible to mobile users, redesign the tool to ensure that users are more aware of the information needed for an enforceable citation, and evaluate the suitability and feasibility for integration to the San José 311 Application:* The San José 311 Report and Digital Strategy Roadmap presentation was delivered to City Council on January 5, 2021. A finding of that report was that the Fire Department, Planning, Building and Code Enforcement, and the Information Technology Department can work with Fire-IT (Information Technology) staff to examine making

interim changes to the existing reporting tool around an improved process. Changes to the online reporting tool were made including required reporting fields and defined data points in an effort to minimize incomplete submissions and provide more actionable reports. The new online reporting tool was implemented on June 15, 2021. Initial review of the data indicates these changes substantially reduced or eliminated incomplete reports and increased the percentage of actionable reports.

Discussions between the Fire Department, Planning, Building and Code Enforcement, and the Information Technology Department are underway to assess the requirements and timing of integrating Fireworks reporting into the San José 311 app. Prioritization of service options to be added to San José 311 will be discussed at the September 2, 2021 Smart Cities and Service Improvements Committee meeting.

- 8) *Collaborate with County, State, and Federal partners on legislation to ban the use of fireworks and increase the punishment for violators. Engage with neighboring cities such as Morgan Hill and Gilroy to encourage countywide bans and prevent fireworks sold and used in these cities from entering San José:* Staff in the Office of Administration, Policy and Intergovernmental Relations reached out to partners at the County and State level and the City's federal lobbyist about potential legislation to ban fireworks and increase the prosecution of violators. While there is a wide acknowledgment of the problem, the attention of the City's partners at all levels of government has been focused on COVID-19 response and mitigation.

The Fire Department reached out to Gilroy Fire Department and learned the City of Gilroy has no current plans to prohibit the sale and use of approved "safe and sane" fireworks on the Fourth of July. However, Gilroy does plan to continue to prohibit the import, sale, and use of unapproved, illegal, or "unsafe and insane" fireworks within their city limits. The City of Morgan Hill, which does not allow safe and sane fireworks, confirmed they have tripled their fines or administrative citations during holidays. The enforcement team in Morgan Hill is also continuing to issue criminal citations when violations are observed first-hand. Staff will continue to evaluate the efficacy of mitigation strategies undertaken in other jurisdictions and bring forward recommendations.

- 9) *Search for potential State and Federal funding sources to invest in enforcement mechanisms and programs to deter fireworks use:* Staff researched possible State and Federal funding sources to invest in enforcement mechanisms and programs to deter fireworks use. Bay Area Urban Areas Securities Initiative, State Homeland Security Grants Program, Assistance to Firefighters Grant, Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response, and the Fire Prevention and Safety grants were explored. None of the grant programs researched were in alignment with the scope or parameters established by the respective programs for this purpose. Staff will continue to research opportunities to support illegal fireworks law enforcement funding.

- 11) *Evaluate current educational campaigns for cultural competency*: Since the Council's direction to evaluate the current educational campaign for cultural relevance, the City has been grappling with the response to, and recovery from, a once-in-a-century pandemic through its Emergency Operations Center. The City Manager's Office of Communications, in partnership with the Fire Department communication staff, has begun the process to review the Fireworks Campaign for cultural relevancy and is aiming to launch refreshed campaign materials in time for Lunar New Year in 2022.

The City Manager's Office of Communications and Mayor's Office have engaged in initial discussions with the Behavioral Insights Team (BIT) regarding advisory support for the campaign refresh. An initial quote and project scope have been submitted by BIT and are currently being reviewed by the City Manager's Office of Communication.

Staff will continue to work to implement these Work Plan items with existing resources, with the acknowledgment that full implementation may require additional funding and partnerships, such as with the City Manager's Office of Racial Equity.

## **2021 Fourth of July**

The illegal fireworks reporting period for the Fourth of July was June 15, 2021 through July 5, 2021. This reporting window coincides with the online reporting tool update implementation on June 15, 2021. The Police Department window was set from June 1, 2021 through July 5, 2021 to correctly capture data related to enforcement activity. An overview and analysis of staff efforts are provided below.

### ***Fire Department***

The Fire Department focused outreach efforts to increase public awareness of the dangers and risks of using illegal fireworks as well as how to report fireworks online. Emphasis was placed on the extreme risk illegal fireworks posed to public safety during wildfire season. Outreach included multilingual safety and educational videos and messages to targeted communities. A fireworks messaging toolkit was provided to identified stakeholder groups including the City Council, school districts, Neighborhoods Commission, PSFSS Committee, All District Leadership Group, neighborhood associations, and residents belonging to the City's Neighborhood Watch/Crime Prevention and CERT groups. Public service advisories were shared in English, Spanish and Vietnamese. Additionally, fire agencies from throughout Santa Clara County partnered on the "Fed Up with Fireworks" campaign messaging beginning June 21, 2021. Shared messaging reminded residents that fireworks are illegal, dangerous, and can result in fires and injuries that are easily preventable. Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors President Cindy Chavez hosted a joint press conference with representatives from Santa Clara County Fire Department, San José Fire Department, CAL FIRE, and the Bay Area Air Quality Management District on June 30, 2021 to share fireworks safety messaging. Media messaging surrounding wildfire season was also connected to illegal fireworks between June and July to further the reach of the fireworks campaign.

Response data captured during the 2021 Fourth of July reporting period totaled 56 calls for service. Of the responses to calls for service, 10 were determined to not be related to fireworks, with the remaining 46 responses falling into smoke scares (14), outside fires related to fireworks (27), and outside fires of undetermined origin (5).

### ***Police Department***

The allocation of resources to fireworks-related complaints continued to be a challenge for the Police Department given the competing and more urgent Priority 1 and 2 Calls for Service. The Police Department began its first planned enforcement operation June 10, 2021 and concluded planned enforcement operations on July 4, 2021. On the Fourth of July, the Department utilized a blend of off-duty officers and on-duty patrol resources to increase visibility and maintain a presence at locations where fireworks were frequently reported. This strategy was widely successful in areas where large crowds had not already formed.

There were locations where crowds had already gathered several hours before officers were deployed to the area, complicating the policing strategy. When faced with large crowds, officers must weigh the possibility that enforcing against the crowd could worsen the situation. As part of Fourth of July enforcement efforts, on-scene officers did not confront crowds if they believed confrontation could escalate the situation, potentially leading to harm to participants, bystanders and officers. Officer would remain nearby, however, so that they could quickly respond to high priority incidents if needed, such as threats to life and property.

Additionally, the Police Department developed a social media PSA campaign to educate, deter, and promote the use of the fireworks reporting website. The PSA was released on social media on June 24, 2021. The Police reporting period was June 1, 2021 to July 6, 2021 to include the department's prevention, education, and enforcement activity.

In 2020, the Foothill division implemented a traffic diversion in the east foothill area to reduce access of non-residents intending to watch or participate in illegal fireworks activity and other disorderly behavior. This diversion greatly reduced the fire hazard from illegal fireworks as well as other ancillary activity. The diversion was a collaborative effort with Council District 4, the San José Fire Department, neighborhood associations, the Open Space Authority, the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Department, and the California Highway Patrol. This diversion received much praise from the community.

This year, the Foothill division implemented three road diversions limiting access to the east foothills during the Fourth of July. The diversions reduced an estimated 500 non-resident vehicles into those areas. These diversions again received tremendous praise from the affected communities.

Police incident logs relating to fireworks events were analyzed compared to last year's data. On July 3, 2020, 155 events relating to fireworks were received compared to 89 events on July 3, 2021, representing a reduction of 43%. On July 4, 2020, Police received 193 events relating to fireworks compared to 264 events on July 4, 2021, representing an increase of 37%. Over a five-



week time span from June 1, 2020 to July 6, 2020, 2,031 events relating to fireworks were received versus 1,078 events received between June 1, 2021 to July 5, 2021, representing a decrease of 47%. A total of 13 citations were issued during the Police reporting period of June 1, 2021 to July 6, 2021.

### ***Planning, Building and Code Enforcement Department – Code Enforcement Division***

Code Enforcement reviewed all 1,769 reports submitted through the online reporting tool with an incident date from June 15 to July 5. Reports that provided a complete address for the incident location and description of firework activity were issued a Warning Notice. Reports with sufficient photo or video evidence of illegal firework activity and identification of a responsible party were issued a Citation. In total, 10 reports resulted in a Citation (0.5%) and 479 reports<sup>3</sup> (or 27%) resulted in a Warning Notice. The remaining 1,280 reports (or 72%) that did not have enough information to issue a Warning Notice or Citation, such as a specific address, were not actionable and will be utilized for firework incident hot spot data. With the recent improvement to the online reporting tool, there were no incomplete reports for this reporting period, a significant improvement from years prior. All reporting parties with reports that resulted in administrative enforcement will be contacted by Code Enforcement via email or phone call to advise of the outcome of their report.

### ***311 and Phone Reports***

Now active year-round, the dedicated Fireworks Hotline (408-535-5600) provides recorded instructions directing a caller to the online reporting tool. Residents may also report illegal fireworks activity via San José 311. The following is a summary of the 311 and phone reports received during the 2021 Fourth of July reporting period (June 15 to July 5):

There were 651 calls received on the fireworks hotline with 409 calls routed to the online reporting tool:

- 17 calls answered by the San José 311 call center;
- 215 calls forwarded to an after-hours answering service;
- 6 calls abandoned while waiting for an agent; and
- 3 service requests received directly through the San José 311 app.

### **Next Steps**

The 2021 fireworks campaign built on the progress of previous years while continuing to recognize the unique challenges faced due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The lessons learned over this past year and recent years confirm much of what was known regarding the fireworks campaign program components, which include Public Education and Outreach, Reporting, and Enforcement. Staff from the Fire Department, Police Department, Planning, Building and Code

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<sup>3</sup> The 479 reports include 101 duplicate reports. The actual number of Warning Notices issued is 378.

Enforcement Department, and, as needed, Information Technology Department, meet regularly to make continued progress on work plan tasks.

As discussed above, the Police Department used both uniformed and non-uniformed resources to conduct enforcement in the weeks leading up to the Fourth of July. The successes and challenges presented as a result of this enhanced effort will be used to guide future enforcement action.

As mentioned, the Online Reporting Tool was enhanced and has already shown significant improvement in the number of complete and actionable reports. Analysis of the submissions and resultant actions will be analyzed to determine additional refinements and the integration of components into San José 311.

An enhanced data-driven messaging campaign through targeted social media and paid advertising continued through the 2021 Fourth of July campaign. Staff will continue to evolve the messaging for community outreach providing new content and revising the messaging to increase effectiveness and relevance for the target audience and time of year.

## **CONCLUSION**

As outlined in the timeline in Attachment A, staff has been working since 2014 to improve the City's education, outreach, reporting, and enforcement activities around the use of illegal fireworks. The work has been challenging, but staff has continued to improve the City's approach to this issue, including through the implementation of the additional work plan items directed by the City Council in October 2020. As discussed above, seven of those items are complete and four are still in process. Staff will continue to work on outstanding items with existing resources. If future additional resources are needed, budget proposals will be evaluated and potentially brought forward to the City Council in the context of the City's overall fiscal condition and other urgent program priorities.

Staff will also continue to evaluate the efficacy of new strategies to reduce the use of fireworks, both through continued monitoring of efforts undertaken in other jurisdictions and ongoing evaluation and continuous improvement of the City's efforts. As additional strategies are identified, staff will bring forward recommendations, as appropriate.

## **EVALUATION AND FOLLOW-UP**

Staff will report the Fireworks Ordinance Work Plan Status Report to the PSFSS Committee annually.

August 4, 2021

**Subject: Fireworks Ordinance Work Plan Status Report**

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## **PUBLIC OUTREACH**

The Fire Department was invited by Councilmember Esparza's office to attend a meeting with the Seven Trees Neighborhood Association on June 2, 2021 to provide information on the City's fireworks campaign. Personnel from Fire, Police, and Planning, Building and Code Enforcement Departments also attended an All District Leadership Group meeting on June 16, 2021 to provide information about the campaign and the City's efforts to address illegal fireworks.

This memorandum will be posted on the PSFSS Committee Agenda website for August 19, 2021.

## **COORDINATION**

This memorandum was coordinated with the City Attorney's Office, City Manager's Budget Office, City Manager's Office of Administration, Policy and Intergovernmental Relations, and City Manager's Office of Communications.

/s/

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/s/

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For questions, please contact Arthur Belton, Acting Deputy Fire Chief/Fire Marshal, at (408) 535-7792.

Attachment A: Illegal Activities Fireworks Timeline

Attachment B: Fourth of July Summary

## Attachment A: Illegal Activities Fireworks Timeline

Date	Activity
1977-1984	State approved fireworks were allowed in San José.
1984	City Council amended the San José Municipal Code banning all fireworks, including “safe and sane” fireworks.
2014	Fire and Police Departments were directed to look for options that might slow and eventually contain the illegal use, sale, possession and storage of fireworks.
August 20, 2014	Rules and Open Government Committee directed the City Manager to draft and bring forward to City Council an ordinance which would authorize the issuance of Administrative Citations and fines for the use, possession, sale, and storage of Fireworks.
June 23, 2015	City Council directed staff to establish a new framework to cite, fine, and adjudicate the use, possession, sale, advertisement for sale, transportation, and/or manufacturing of fireworks and to explore the use of Administrative Citations in addition to criminal charges.
April 12, 2016	City Council adopted an ordinance amending the San José Municipal Code to prohibit the sale, use, possession, and storage of all types of fireworks.
	A resolution was also adopted amending the Administration Citation Schedule of Fines to establish administrative fines for fireworks-related violations.
July 1, 2016- July 5, 2016	Illegal Fireworks Pilot Program entailing publicity and enforcement.
	Illegal Fireworks Online Reporting System was created as a technology solution to allow the public to inform the City of illegal fireworks activity (up to 6 Code Enforcement Inspectors and 4-6 Fire Prevention Inspectors to review online reports).
April 2017	Police Department created a list from 2016 Fourth of July data identifying 62 “hot spots” citywide.
May-June-July 2017	City instituted a comprehensive marketing and outreach campaign, implemented a new online firework reporting platform, and deployed “in the field” enforcement personnel for the 2017 Fourth of July.
September 2017	City Manager designated the Fire Department as the lead department for coordination and project implementation. City Council provided direction on Fines and Appeals, Use of Volunteers, and Outreach and Marketing Campaign.
November 28, 2017	High-level Illegal Fireworks Plan developed and presented to City Council; Expanded illegal fireworks messaging campaign and online reporting to New Year’s Eve and Tet/Lunar New Year; Created a “Save Lives, Including Your Own” New Year’s Eve fireworks and Tet/Lunar New Year campaign; Established a dedicated phone line for reporting illegal fireworks activity; and, Updated and improved Illegal Fireworks Online Reporting Form.
January 1, 2018	Established new advance deposit hardship waiver qualification criteria for all Administrative Citations.
March 16, 2018	Applied for Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security Fire Prevention and Safety (FP&S) Grant to provide education and awareness funding to assist the City in accomplishing illegal fireworks goals.
March 20, 2018	City Council approved the Mayor’s March Budget Message for 2018-2019, which approved one-time funding to support the Rotary International 2018 Fourth of July Fireworks event.
April 2018	Established Education and Awareness, Reporting, and Enforcement as major program components along with lowering the injuries and fires, increasing the number of

	actionable reports, and decreasing the number of illegal fireworks hotspots as program goals.
August 2018	Fire information technology staff took over support of the online reporting tool.
October 2018	Initiated regular reporting at Neighborhoods Commission.
February 2019	Planning, Building and Code Enforcement Department conducted a community survey. Received 178 responses out of 616 surveys sent out.
May 2019	Fire Department partnered with Andrew P. Hill High School, Leigh High School, and Dartmouth Middle School to display a messaging campaign on digital boards and banners.
June 2019	Google translation service added to the online reporting system.
July 2019	Planning, Building and Code Enforcement sent emails and phone calls to reporting parties who submitted reports during the 2019 Fourth of July reporting period advising individuals that their report resulted in the issuance of a Warning Notice.
July 2020	COVID -19 Pandemic shelter-in-place order presented significant challenges. Focused on fireworks outreach through social media, community-based networks, and alternate activities. Used data from previous years to target social media campaign and community contact.
December 2020	On December 15, 2020, City Council approved \$1,000 fines for first and \$2,000 & \$3,000 fines for subsequent illegal firework violations.
May 2021	City Council approved Social Host amendment to Fireworks Ordinance May 25, 2021.
June 2021	Police Department instituted dedicated enforcement leading up to July 4 <sup>th</sup> , in conjunction with a social media campaign to prevent, educate, and deter illegal fireworks activity. Online reporting tool was refined with an updated version activated on June 15, 2021.

**Attachment B: Fourth of July Summary**

	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>
<b>Hot Spots</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>62</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>Fire Permits</b>			4	4	0 (COVID-19)	2 (neither for actual July 4 <sup>th</sup> )
<b>Police Block Party Permits</b>	33	40	37	29	0 (COVID-19)	7
<b>Actionable Online Reports</b>	-	-	92	161 (includes duplicates)	335	489 (includes 101 duplicates)
<b>Online Report Stats</b>	694	1,075	3,421 reports filed  (1,017 insufficient info., 2,312 incomplete)	1,946 reports filed  (596 insufficient info., 1,189 incomplete)	6,601 reports filed  (2,672 insufficient info., 3,416 incomplete, 178 duplicates)	1,769 reports filed  (1,280 insufficient info., 0 incomplete reports)
<b>Citations Issued</b>	3 (Fire) 13 (PD)	5 (Fire) 9 (PD)	1 (Fire) 4 (PBCE) 1 (PD)	7 (PBCE) 1 (PD) 2 Arrests	4 (PBCE) 1 (PD) 3 Arrests	10 (PBCE) 13 (PD)
<b>Warnings Issued</b>	197 (online) 26 (PRNS)	161	88	150	331	378
<b>Reports Used for Hot Spot Data</b>						1,280
<b>Fire/PD Confiscations</b>	32 lbs. (PD) 11 Sets (PRNS)  Total - 853 lbs.	40 lbs. (Fire) 2,760+ lbs. (PD)  *50 lbs. (Fire) voluntary disposal	0 lbs.	300 lbs.	450 lbs. (PD)	550 lbs. (PD)
<b>Fire Calls for Service</b>	80 (PD) 29 (PD & Fire)	17 fireworks related calls that included 8 fires	28 fireworks related calls, included 14 fires   none related to med emergency	23 fireworks related calls, included 15 fires   none related to med emergency	124 Fireworks related calls, included 54 fires   2 related to medical emergency	56 fireworks related calls, that included 32 fires   none related to medical emergency

	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>
<b>PD Calls for Service</b>	392 (June 1 – July 6)	378 (June 1 – July 6)	556 (June 1 – July 6)	430 (June 1 – July 6)	2,031 (June 1 – July 6)	1,078 (June 1 – July 6)
<b>Hotline Calls</b>	Hotline was not implemented	Hotline was not implemented	611 *27 by Call Center   411 after-hours	787 *68 by Call Center   434 after hours	1973 *1,073 by Hotline directed to online form   889 answered by staff   77 answered by 311	651 Calls received by Hotline   409 directed to online form   236 answered by staff

2021 Fourth of July data reflects reporting from June 15 - July 5, 2021, except Police data which reflects reporting from June 1 - July 6, 2021.