

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council

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The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(18) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(1) Recusal(0)

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Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information

Date: 02/16/2018

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 17-1421

Agenda Date: 02/13/2018

Item Number: 19

Summary: February 15, 2018

CIS From SVANC Regarding Motion 17-1421

The Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council (SVANC) strongly endorses the Los Angeles City Council Motion 17-1421 regarding the illegal use of fireworks.

We oppose the use of all fireworks that are not set off by licensed professionals. The thunderous explosions across the San Fernando Valley, (for days & weeks) leading up to and after the 4th of July is terrifying to children and animals and are at best irritating to the rest of us. As our fire and drought season are now year-round, the potential of accidental ignition of homes, trees and chaparral is extremely high. In addition the resulting layers of smoke have become a serious health danger.

SVANC is emphatic that:

- Laws regarding illegal fireworks need to be stricter, with greater penalties, and those laws need to be more stringently enforced.
- More resources need to be allocated and financed in order to enforce these laws, especially during the 4th of July and New Year's Eve holidays.

Injuries from illegal fireworks occur to men, women and children of all ages. Scores of panicked pets (from horses to rabbits) escape their owner's property in reaction to the explosions. Since these safety concerns exist, fireworks should be displayed only at legally permitted events, by properly trained and licensed professionals. Stronger deterrents for all other firework displays are necessary. Violators must be legally prosecuted with more severe penalties than currently exist.

For the protection of our citizens, homes, businesses and surrounding property, the SVANC encourages further legislation and higher penalties in regard to stopping the use of non-permitted fireworks. We also request more resources to be deployed to patrol our neighborhoods for those that ignore these laws.