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PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT and RESOLUTION relative to addressing issues related to illegal fireworks.

Recommendations for Council action, as initiated by Motion (O'Farrell - Ryu), SUBJECT TO THE CONCURRENCE OF THE MAYOR:

1. INSTRUCT the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) and Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD), with the assistance of the LAFD's partner organization MySafe:LA, to:
 - a. Implement community risk reduction strategies including increased public outreach efforts, direct mail to residents, and placing educational banners and signs on public buildings regarding the dangers of using illegal fireworks.
 - b. Work with the Los Angeles Unified School District on the implementation of information campaign for children related to the dangers posed by illegal fireworks.
2. INSTRUCT the LAPD, with the assistance of the Information Technology Agency, to report on what steps are necessary to enable mobile reporting of illegal fireworks through the 311 app or phone service.
3. ADOPT the accompanying RESOLUTION, to include in the 2017-18 State Legislative Program, SUPPORT for legislation and/or administrative action that would ensure that the California State Fire Marshal is provided regular funding for the destruction of confiscated fireworks.
4. INSTRUCT the LAPD and LAFD, with assistance from the Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA) and City Administrative Officer (CAO), to identify and apply for any grant funding opportunity that can be used for illegal fireworks enforcement and education in the City.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Neither the CLA nor the CAO has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: Yes

For:

Sylmar Neighborhood Council

Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council

SUMMARY

At the meeting held on April 25, 2018, your Public Safety Committee considered a CLA report relative to addressing issues related to illegal fireworks. The CLA reports that there are a number of issues that affect enforcement of fireworks laws in the City. First, despite being illegal, dangerous fireworks are easily accessible, as they can be purchased in neighboring states and transported into California, where they can be sold for a significant profit. Further, the Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles are major entry points for imported goods from Asia, where a majority of fireworks are manufactured. This creates a situation where dangerous fireworks meant

for legal markets in other States can end up on the streets of California. Every year, Police Departments across the state, including LAPD, make a number of arrests and seize illegal fireworks, but the problem still continues. Fireworks seized by local law enforcement agencies are turned over to the State Fire Marshal for destruction. However, the Fire Marshal has historically not received sufficient funding for fireworks destruction, and has a backlog of fireworks awaiting destruction. After an opportunity for public comment, the Committee moved to approve the recommendations presented in the CLA report as amended, as detailed above. This matter is now forwarded to the Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE



<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
ENGLANDER:	YES
O'FARRELL:	YES
BUSCAINO:	YES
RYU:	ABSENT
RODRIGUEZ:	YES

ME
4/25/18

-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-