

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT relative to examining and potentially strengthening local fireworks-related ordinances and advocating for more stringent state law provisions.

Recommendations for Council action, as initiated by Motion (McOsker, Lee – Nazarian, Hutt):

1. REQUEST the City Attorney, in consultation with the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) and Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA), to report in 30 days with pathways to strengthen provisions within the City ordinances and state laws governing fireworks, integrating ways that the City can work to reduce the public safety risks associated with illegal fireworks and provide stronger deterrents against their use and sale. This report should specifically look to address the following provisions and the ways to increase enforcement:
 - a. Los Angeles Municipal Code Sections applicable to fireworks and explosives:
 - i. Increased penalties for the possession or use of illegal fireworks.
 - ii. Introduce graduated fines or harsher consequences for repeat offenders.
 - iii. Allow for civil fines against property owners where illegal fireworks are found to be used, sold, or stored.
 - b. California Health and Safety Code Sections applicable to fireworks and explosives:
 - i. Stronger enforcement of California state restrictions on the sale, possession, and use of fireworks.
 - ii. Advocate for increased penalties under state law, such as felony charges for large-scale possession or sale.
 - iii. Mandate collaboration with county, state, and federal agencies, such as the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, for investigations and interdictions of illegal fireworks imports to combat illicit fireworks smuggling or trafficking.
2. REQUEST the City Attorney, in consultation with the LAFD and CLA, to report in 30 days on proposing the creation of restricted zones where even permitted firework shows may be banned entirely, such as near hospitals, schools, or highly populated residential areas. This should include strengthening permitting processes for the sale and public use of legal fireworks and ensuring only certified vendors are allowed to distribute them.
3. DIRECT the LAFD, in consultation with the CLA and City Administrative Officer (**CAO**), to report in 30 days with a framework and required resources to implement enhanced public awareness campaigns to raise awareness about the dangers of illegal fireworks and the legal consequences.
4. DIRECT the LAFD and Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), in consultation with the CAO, to report in 30 days on additional ways along with required resources for the LAFD and LAPD to further collaborate through the use of joint operations or task forces for targeted enforcement to deter illegal fireworks sales and use.
5. DIRECT the LAFD and the LAPD, in consultation with the CAO, to provide a report on code provisions which are currently being enforced and the frequency of enforcement by division and Council District.

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

Community Impact Statement: None submitted

SUMMARY

At the meeting held on February 5, 2025, your Public Safety Committee considered a Motion (McOsker, Lee – Nazarian, Hutt) relative to examining and potentially strengthening local fireworks-related ordinances and advocating for more stringent state law provisions

After an opportunity for public comment was held, the Committee moved to approve the recommendations contained in the Motion 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>
LEE	YES
PRICE	YES
McOSKER	YES
SOTO-MARTÍNEZ	YES
PARK	YES

ME

-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-