



May 2, 2019

City of Carson City Council
701 E. Carson Street
Carson, CA 90746

Via Email

SUBJECT: SAFE AND SANE FIREWORKS PROGRAM

Dear Honorable City Council:

The members of the Environmental Commission are requesting the City Council to assess the sale of fireworks within the City via its Safe and Sane Fireworks program; and consider modifying or ending the program based on the following factors:

Safety and Fire Danger

- California Wildfire season has been extended to an entire year versus being seasonal.
- Fireworks are being sold to minors with potential of little to no adult supervision resulting in reports of house and property fires due to negligence or malicious intent (Source: Facebook, Crimes in Carson).

Health

- In general, an increased number of residents suffer from respiratory ailments such as asthma.
- Neighborhood fireworks activities result with residents remaining indoors to avoid negative impacts from the saturation of noxious smoke from burning fireworks that dissipates slowly and lingers for hours.
- Adversely affect veteran residents who have PTSD.

Illegal Fireworks

- The Safe and Sane program instigates the use of illegal firework activities.
- Neighborhoods throughout the City are impacted by the use of illegal fireworks which cause safety and fire hazards and noise disturbance.

Noise Disturbance

- The sale and use of fireworks typically occurs before the 4th of July, peak on the holiday and weeks afterward. Fireworks are set-off in the morning and through late at night.
- The loud noise adversely affects the community particularly our senior residents, small children, and pets.
- Family pets are traumatized by the loud sounds and some runaway and become lost.
- Animal shelters become full and many animals are euthanized as a result of overcrowded conditions during this season.

Improper Disposal

- Environmental concerns regarding the improper disposal of fireworks by some residents: either leave fireworks material/debris in the street or sweep the debris into storm drains resulting in contaminants in the ocean.

We respectfully ask the City Council to consider removing the program or include additional enforcement to prevent the use of illegal fireworks and ensure the safe use and disposal of legal fireworks.

We look forward to your response and appreciate your time and attention.

Best Regards,

The City of Carson Environmental Commission

Commissioners' Vote:

	Vote		Name	Vote	
	Aye	No		Aye	No
Young	X		Brillantes		Excused
Salazar	X		Koons	X	
Hopson	X		Ang		Absent
Taylor	X		Sayre-Smith		Absent
Watkins	X				
Villalpando	X				
Mack	X				

***Bolded text is the vote from May 1, 2019 Environmental Commission Meeting: Unanimous Vote**