

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT relative to operating the Fireworks Buyback Program in every Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) Bureau for the 4th of July holiday, as well as with a plan to expand the Program to include more locations and other firework heavy holidays.

Recommendation for Council action, pursuant to Motion (Rodriguez - Harris-Dawson):

INSTRUCT the LAPD, with the assistance of the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD), City Administrative Officer (CAO), and the Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA) report on resources required and potential funding sources for operating the Fireworks Buy-back Program in every LAPD Bureau for the 4th of July holiday, as well as with a plan to expand the Program to include more locations and other firework heavy holidays.

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

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Summary:

On September 12, 2023, your Committee considered a Motion (Rodriguez – Harris-Dawson) relative to operating the Fireworks Buyback Program in every LAPD Bureau for the 4th of July holiday, as well as with a plan to expand the Program to include more locations and other firework heavy holidays. According to the Motion, in 2021, while speaking with the Mission Division Quality of Life Community-Police Advisory Board, the idea of holding a City of Los Angeles Anonymous Fireworks Buyback Program (Program) was put forward. In 2021, the first buyback event was held and it was a success. A quarter of a ton of illegal fireworks were collected in exchange for gift cards, and Dodger tickets.

Every year, the period around the 4th of July is the busiest call volume for the LAFD. The loud and persistent sounds caused by unpermitted firework demonstrations across the City bring stress and anxiety to animals, both large and small, as well as to some military veterans. Expanding the Council District 7 Fireworks Buyback Program Citywide would help reduce the stress felt by military veterans and animals, as well as reduce the fire risk and calls for service to the LAFD. In addition to expanding the Program Citywide, the City should offer buyback events on other holidays that experience widespread use of fireworks, such as New Year's Eve. After consideration and having provided an opportunity for public comment, the Committee moved to recommend approval of the Motion. This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,
Public Safety Committee

COUNCILMEMBER	VOTE
RODRIGUEZ:	YES
LEE:	YES
McOSKER:	YES
PARK:	YES
SOTO-MARTINEZ:	YES

ARL

9/12/23

-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-