



LODI CITY COUNCIL

Carnegie Forum
305 West Pine Street, Lodi

"SHIRTSLEEVE" SESSION

Date: March 24, 2015

Time: 7:00 a.m.

For information regarding this Agenda please contact:

Jennifer M. Ferraiolo

City Clerk

Telephone: (209) 333-6702

Informal Informational Meeting

A. Roll Call by City Clerk

B. Topic(s)

B-1 Presentation on the City's Efforts to Mitigate the Use of Illegal Fireworks (PD)

C. Comments by Public on Non-Agenda Items

D. Adjournment

Pursuant to Section 54954.2(a) of the Government Code of the State of California, this agenda was posted at least 72 hours in advance of the scheduled meeting at a public place freely accessible to the public 24 hours a day.

Jennifer M. Ferraiolo
City Clerk

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CITY OF LODI COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

AGENDA TITLE: Presentation on the City's Efforts to Mitigate the Use of Illegal Fireworks
MEETING DATE: March 24, 2015
PREPARED BY: Chief of Police

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Presentation on the City's efforts to mitigate the use of illegal fireworks.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The Police and Fire Departments will provide a presentation on the use of illegal fireworks within the city limits.

FISCAL IMPACT: Not applicable.

FUNDING AVAILABLE: Not applicable.

Mark Helms
Chief of Police

cc: City Attorney

APPROVED: _____
Stephen Schwabauer, City Manager

Fireworks

Police Department
Fire Department
March 24, 2015

Fireworks Issues

- Personal Injury
- Fire Danger
- Potential “Destructive Devices”



Other Obstacles

- CHP has stopped their roadway interdiction, which was quite successful in years past.
- As a result, we have seen a huge increase in the possession and discharge of these fireworks within the City limits.

Where Do They Come From Locally?

Stockton, Sacramento, & elsewhere. The most common are:

- Street Vendors
- Craigslist
- Other Internet Sales sites:
 - Facebook Buy/Sale pages (Lodiville Buy/Sell, Stockton Yard Sale)
 - EBay Classifieds

Past Courses of Action

“Fireworks Suppression” staffing.

- 2011, 2012, 2013 Fire and Police suppression teams worked overtime leading up to July 4th.
- 2011 stats: 219 calls, 6 citations for fireworks violations
- 2012 stats: 207 calls, 7 citations for fireworks violations, 1 misdemeanor arrest.
- 2013 stats: 165 calls, 2 misdemeanor arrests for possessing illegal fireworks, 2 other citations for fireworks violations, 3.2 pounds of fireworks seized.



2014 Results

Four Officers worked 6 hours July 4th at a total cost of under \$2,000. During the 30 hours of directed patrol:

- Handled 207 calls for service: dispatched and primarily “on view”.
- Made 3 misdemeanor arrests for the Health & Safety Code violation: possession of illegal fireworks.
- Seized 2 pounds of small bottle rockets.

What Have Other Cities Done?

- In 2014, the City of Manteca attempted several “Buy Busts” for illegal fireworks.
 - Manteca PD determined the operation was not cost-effective and a failure.
- Sacramento PD, Merced PD, Stockton PD, San Joaquin Sheriff

Future Course of Action

- Focus on property owners and tenants.
- Cite for the LMC Violations and treat the violations as a civil offense using the noise and nuisance sections.
- Better chance of the violators being issued a civil fine for punishment of the municipal code violation.



Public Education

An aggressive campaign of PSAs describing the difference between, and laws pertaining to, illegal fireworks and the "Safe & Sane" versions, and who will be held accountable.



Common PSAs



**More pets
go missing
on July 4th
than any
other day.**



Fireworks are Scary

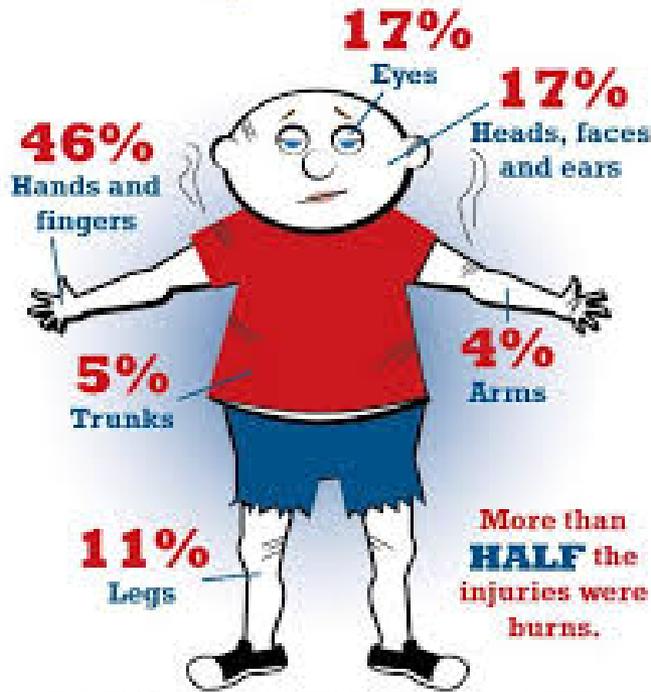


Keep Your Pets Safe

**Fireworks
terrify pets!**

Create a safe haven for your pets in a sheltered, escape-proof part of your home with plenty of water. Also, turn on the TV to help mask the fireworks with familiar sounds.

Most Injured Body Parts



ILLEGAL FIREWORKS

Did **YOU** Know...
It's a **CRIME!**

Possession of just one illegal firework is a misdemeanor and punishable by fine or imprisonment.

How can you tell if a firework is illegal?

Look for Identifiers. Illegal fireworks include those described as cherry bombs, bottle rockets, mortars, aerial shells, M-80's and firecrackers. Illegal fireworks can also easily be identified by the **lack of a seal of approval** from the California State Fire Marshal. If the firework can leave the ground or explode in the air it is illegal.

How does a legal firework become illegal?

Any Safe and Sane firework that is altered or changed in any way can be considered illegal. Purchased fireworks from stands in **Costa Mesa** support organizations who support the community. These types of fireworks are legal and can be used in your Costa Mesa neighborhood on

July 2, 3 and 4.



BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR – DON'T USE ILLEGAL FIREWORKS

Report Illegal Fireworks Use and Suspicious Activity at
714.754.5252 (24-hour number)

Safety Tips from the Costa Mesa Fire and Police Departments



6-530

Public Outreach

- Public service announcements can be placed on the city websites, the Lodi Police Facebook page and Twitter.
- Lodi News Sentinel.

For Council Consideration

- Questions?
- Comments?

