



## LAKEWOOD CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

Monday, September 21, 2020

7:00 P.M.

City of Lakewood

The Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA) waiver by the state legislative leadership was extended through October 1, therefore City Hall Council Chambers will be NOT be open for City Council meetings.

Residents can virtually attend City Council meetings by watching them live on the city's YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/user/cityoflakewoodwa>

Those who do not have access to YouTube can participate via Zoom by visiting <https://zoom.us/> or calling by telephone: **Dial +1(253) 215- 8782 and entering participant ID: 868 7263 2373.**

### **To participate in Public Comment:**

Public Comments will be accepted by mail, email or by live virtual comment. Send comments by mail or email to Briana Schumacher, City Clerk at 6000 Main Street SW Lakewood, WA 98499 or [bschumacher@cityoflakewood.us](mailto:bschumacher@cityoflakewood.us). Comments received up to one hour before the meeting will be provided to the City Council electronically.

**Virtual Comments:** If you would like to provide live Public Comments during the meeting, you will need to join the Zoom meeting as an attendee by calling by telephone Dial +1(253) 215- 8782 and enter participant ID: 868 7263 2373 or visiting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86872632373>.

**By Phone:** For those participating by calling in by telephone (+1(253) 215- 8782 and enter participant ID: 868 7263 2373), the Mayor will call on you during the Public Comment portion of the agenda. When you are unmuted please provide your name and city of residence. Each speaker will be allowed (3) three minutes to speak during the Public Comment.

**By ZOOM:** For those using the ZOOM link (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86872632373>), upon entering the meeting, please enter your name or other chosen identifier. Use the "Raise Hand" feature to be called upon by the Mayor during the Public Comments portion of the agenda. When you are unmuted please provide your name and city of residence. Each speaker will be allowed (3) three minutes to speak.

Outside of Public Comments, all attendees on ZOOM will continue to have the ability to virtually raise your hand for the duration of the meeting. You will not be acknowledged and your microphone will remain muted except for when you are called upon.

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Page No.

## CALL TO ORDER

## ROLL CALL

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

*Persons requesting special accommodations or language interpreters should contact the City Clerk, 253-983-7705, as soon as possible in advance of the Council meeting so that an attempt to provide the special accommodations can be made.*

<http://www.cityoflakewood.us>

**PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

1. Swearing-In of Municipal Court Judge. – *Ms. Lisa Mansfield*
- (5) 2. Proclamation thanking the City of Gimhae, South Korea for their donation of masks and Personal Protective Equipment, as well as for their continued friendship and support.
- (6) 3. Tacoma Public Utilities Budget and Rate Adjustment Presentation. – *Ms. LaTasha Wortham, Regional Relations Manager*

**PUBLIC COMMENTS****C O N S E N T   A G E N D A**

- (26) A. Approval of the minutes of the City Council meeting of September 8, 2020.
- (31) B. Approval of the minutes of the City Council study session of September 14, 2020.
- (34) C. Motion No. 2020-49  
  
Authorizing the execution of necessary documents to acquire real property located at 12616 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue SW, tax parcel #021912-3032.
- (36) D. Motion No. 2020-50  
  
Reappointing James Hairston and Mark Peila to serve on the Public Safety Advisory Committee through August 6, 2023 and appointing Tod Wolf to serve on the Public Safety Advisory Committee through August 6, 2021.
- (43) E. Items filed in the Office of the City Clerk:
  1. Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting minutes of January 28, 2020.
  2. Planning Commission meeting minutes of July 15, 2020.

*Persons requesting special accommodations or language interpreters should contact the City Clerk, 253-983-7705, as soon as possible in advance of the Council meeting so that an attempt to provide the special accommodations can be made.*

**R E G U L A R   A G E N D A****ORDINANCE****(47) Ordinance No. 742**

Amending Chapter 8.68 of the Lakewood Municipal Code relating to fireworks.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS****NEW BUSINESS****REPORTS BY THE CITY MANAGER****(285) VISION 2050 Population and Housing Projections Update.****CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS****ADJOURNMENT**

*Persons requesting special accommodations or language interpreters should contact the City Clerk, 253-983-7705, as soon as possible in advance of the Council meeting so that an attempt to provide the special accommodations can be made.*

# CITY OF LAKEWOOD



## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, the City of Lakewood and the City of Gimhae, South Korea have shared Friendship City status with one another since 2006; and

**WHEARAS**, the Lakewood Sister Cities Association has coordinated numerous exchanges and engagement events for representatives of the City of Lakewood and the City of Gimhae that have resulted in deeper cultural awareness and greater understanding between the two communities; and

**WHEREAS**, Mayor Seong Gon Heo, the City of Gimhae and KM Corporation graciously donated 10,000 KF94 masks and 1,000 Personal Protective Equipment suits that include googles, N95 masks, single use gloves, booties, and body suits, to the City of Lakewood to help support its continued response to the Coronavirus Pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Lakewood is extremely grateful for this extraordinary generosity and support; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Lakewood wants to recognize the City of Gimhae's kindness and the positive impact the City of Gimhae's donation will have on the Lakewood community.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Don Anderson, Mayor of the City of Lakewood, on behalf of the Lakewood City Council, hereby proclaim admiration, respect and the best wishes from the City of Lakewood, to thank the City of Gimhae for their donation of masks and Personal Protective Equipment, as well as for their continued friendship and support.

PROCLAIMED this 21<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2020.

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Don Anderson, Mayor





TO: Mayor and City Councilmembers

FROM: Shannon Kelley-Fong, Senior Policy Analyst

THROUGH: John J. Caulfield, City Manager 

DATE: September 21, 2020

SUBJECT: Gimhae Thank you videos

**BACKGROUND:** In August, the City received a donation of 10,000 KF94 masks and 1,000 sets of personal protection equipment (PPE), from the city of Gimhae, South Korea. Gimhae and Lakewood have shared Friendship Cities status since 2006. The masks and PPE were donated by Gimhae as an act of support, collaboration and friendship between the two cities.

The City distributed a majority of the 5,000 KF94 masks to community partners, including:

Entity	Masks Distributed
West Pierce Fire and Rescue	800
Choice - Springbrook	200
City Hall - HR	600
Western State Hospital	600
Emergency Food Network	5000
Lakewood Chamber of Commerce	1600

The City also provided WPFR with 300 PPE sets.

**THANK YOU VIDEOS:** The City crafted a “Thank you” video for Gimhae featuring the City Council, City Manager, Lakewood Sister City Association and several community partners:

[City of Lakewood and Community Partners say “Thank you” to Gimhae](#)

Several shorter videos were also created for social media spotlights:

[Lakewood City Council say “Thank you” to Gimhae](#)

[Lakewood Sister City Association say “Thank you” to Gimhae](#)

[City of Lakewood and Emergency Food Network say “Thank you” to Gimhae](#)

[West Pierce Fire and Rescue say “Thank you” to Gimhae](#)

[Lakewood Chamber of Commerce say “Thank you” to Gimhae](#)

COMMUNITY VALUE FIRST



**Proposed Rate Adjustment  
Presentation to  
Lakewood City Council  
September 21, 2020**



# Tacoma Public Utilities Overview

Our mission:

*Tacoma Public Utilities provides services that are vital to our quality of life.*

*Who we are:*





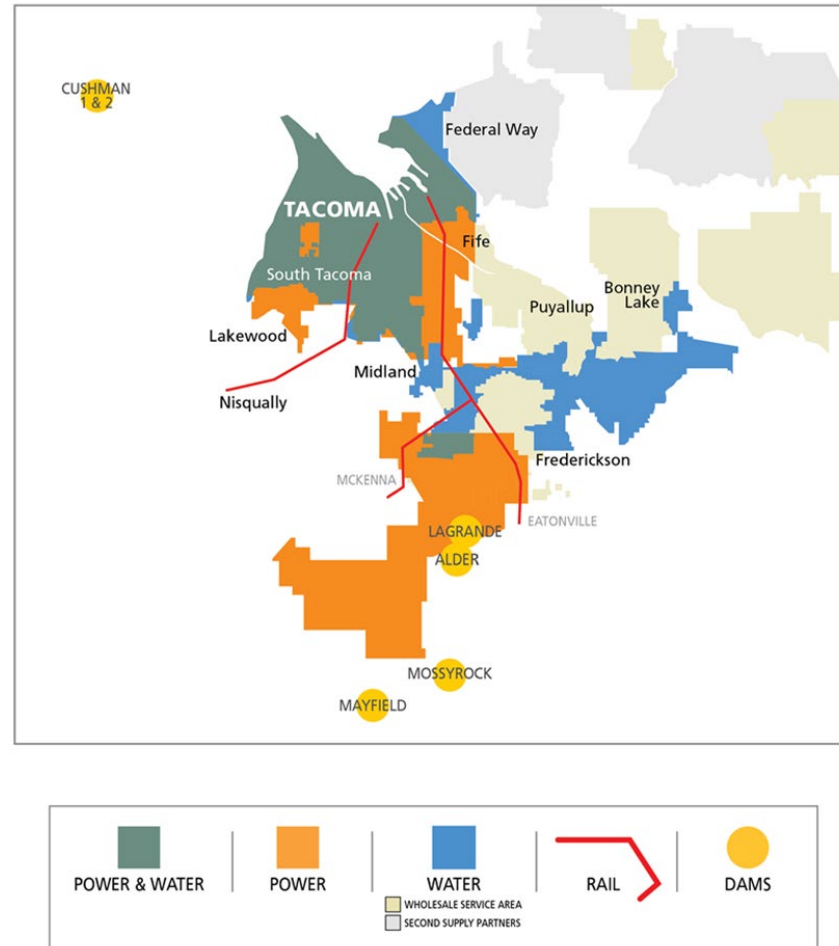
# Tacoma Public Utilities Overview

## About us:

- Public, cost-of-service organization; we don't pay investors
- Part of the community since 1893
- Led by a 5-member Public Utility Board
- Jackie Flowers, Director of Public Utilities



# Tacoma Public Utilities service area



# Commitment to equity

TPU is committed to achieving equity in our...

- Service delivery: Equitable service delivery
- Workforce: Our workforce reflects the community we serve
- Community and Stakeholder Engagement: Purposeful community outreach and engagement



# Our service portfolio

- Tacoma Power is one the cleanest utilities in the world, our portfolio is nearly carbon free
- We have an ample, sustainable water supply
- We manage our water and power supplies so we can meet customers' needs for decades to come
- Our water system relies primarily on gravity, minimizing the electricity needed
- We are stewards of our environment by protecting lands, fish and wildlife



# Tacoma Public Utilities principles

- We are committed to gradual, consistent, stable, and predictable rate changes over the long term and to avoiding sudden or large changes
- We bill customers only for the costs required to serve each customer





# Tacoma Public Utilities principles

## Why adjust rates during the COVID-19 pandemic?

- Inflationary costs
  - Gradual changes
  - Revenue impact & spending adjustments
- 
- How is TPU assisting customers impacted by COVID-19?
    - Emergency Assistance Program (EAP)
      - \$2.4 million for those in need due to COVID-19
      - \$1.96 million provided to households in our service area to date
      - \$45.5K+ to 356 households in Lakewood
      - Visit [mytpu.org/emergencyassistance](https://mytpu.org/emergencyassistance) or call Customer Services at 253.502.8600 to apply for the EAP



# Ongoing utilities costs

Operating and capital expenses in 2021 & 2022 include:

- Technology projects
- Regulatory compliance to manage fish and the environment; and analyze impacts of potential seismic activity
- Enhancement of cyber security measures



# 2021/2022 Residential rate proposal

**Adjustments are per year for both 2021 and 2022**

## Power

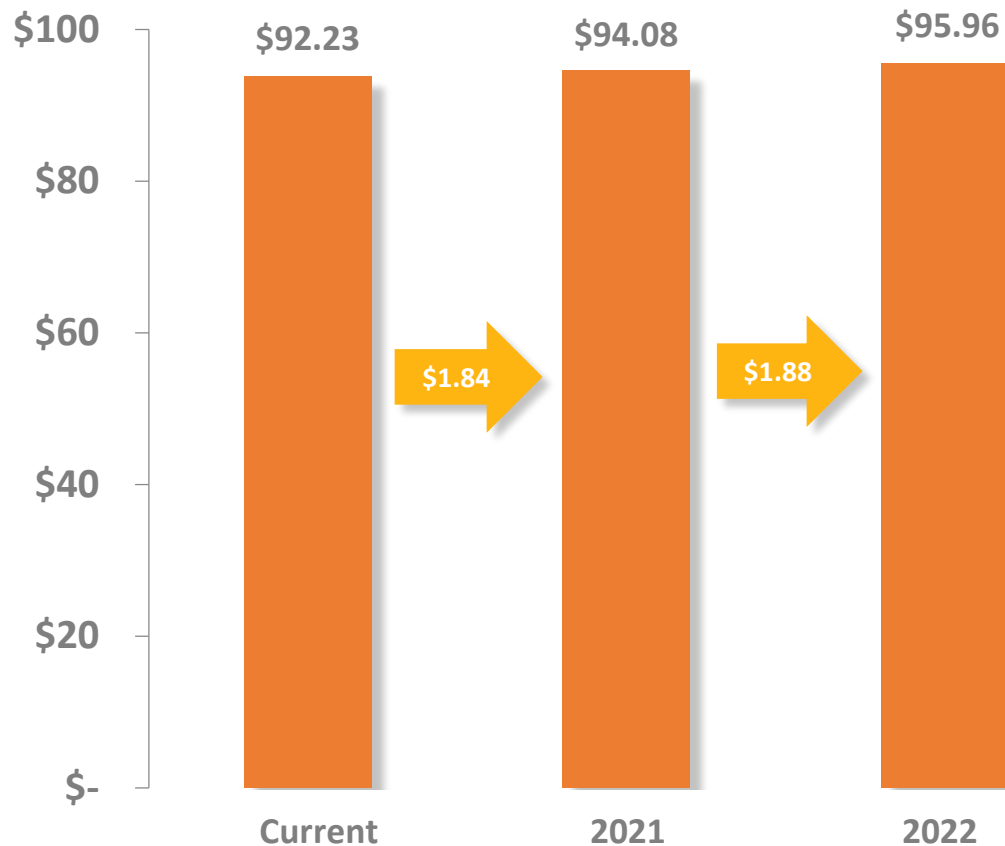
- 2.0% increase for all customers
- Residential customers
  - \$1.84 average monthly increase in 2021
  - \$1.88 average monthly increase in 2022

## Water

- 2.0% increase for all customers
- Residential customers
  - \$0.95 average monthly increase in 2021
  - \$0.98 average monthly increase in 2022



# Average monthly residential electric bill



Assumed average usage. Individual customer bills may be higher or lower depending on usage.



# Managing Power challenges, costs

## Challenges:

- 2019 record-low rainfall, less excess hydropower
- Inflationary costs
- COVID-19 decline in revenue

## Cost Reductions:

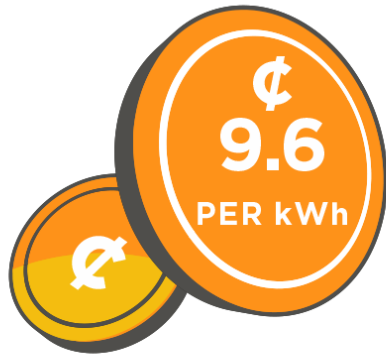
- Reduced planning spending by \$8 million in 2020 and by \$20 million in 2021-2022
  - Prioritize critical hiring
  - Reduced travel and office-related expenses
  - Delayed or cancelled infrastructure projects



# Average monthly residential water bill

## POWER RATES

We are proud to say that our rates are among the lowest in the region.



**KWH**  
=

**KILOWATT-HOUR**



**Snohomish PUD**

\$99 month

**Seattle City Light**

\$111 month

**Puget Sound Energy**

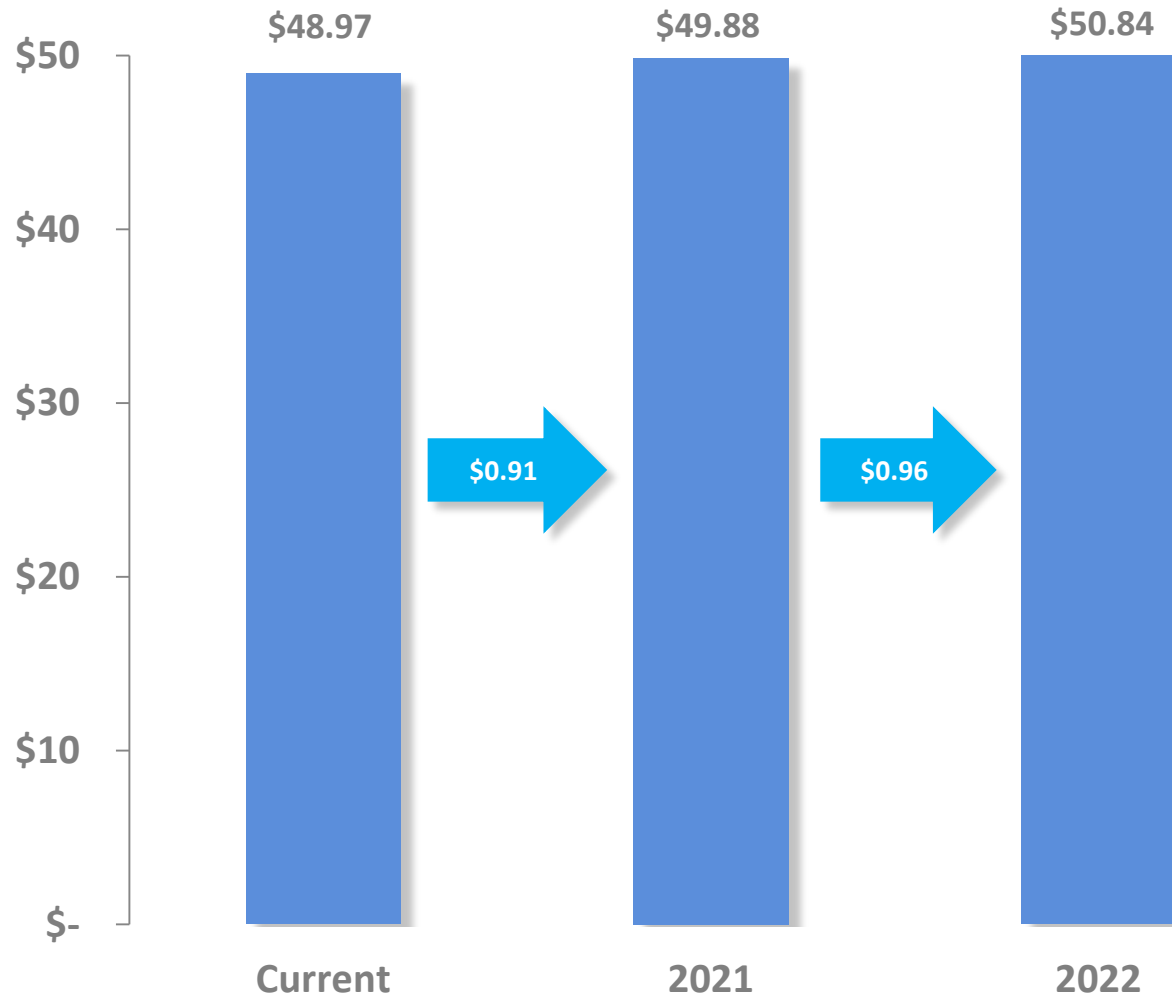
\$103 month



**AVERAGE  
COST PER  
HOUSEHOLD**



# Average monthly residential water bill



# Managing Water challenges, costs

## Challenges:

- Inflationary costs
- COVID -19 decline in revenue

## Cost Reductions:

- Deferring capital projects
- Long-term financial planning
- Prioritized critical hiring





# Managing Water challenges, costs

## WATER RATES

We are proud to say that our rates are among the lowest in the region.



**1 CCF  
=  
748 GALLONS**

**City of Puyallup**  
\$26 month

**City of Bellevue**  
\$53 month

**City of Seattle**  
\$58 month



**AVERAGE COST  
PER HOUSEHOLD**



# How customers can lower their costs

- **Conservation** — lowers your cost and good for the environment, visit: [MyTPU.org/Rebates](https://MyTPU.org/Rebates)
- **Zero-interest and deferred loans** - support for energy efficient home improvement projects
- **Payment assistance** – programs available for income qualifying customers, including seniors and people living with a disability visit: [MyTPU.org/Assistance](https://MyTPU.org/Assistance)
- **Emergency Assistance Program** – support for those impacted by COVID -19 visit: [MyTPU.org/emergencyassistance](https://MyTPU.org/emergencyassistance)



*Want to learn more or get involved?*

**Visit our website: [MyTPU.org/Rates](http://MyTPU.org/Rates)**

- Review information about our rates
- Attend public meetings and provide comments or submit written public comments
  - Rates Public Hearing on September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 6pm
- Subscribe to rates email notifications





# Thank you

What feedback or questions  
do you have for us?





# Contact

**Clark Mather**

Community and Government Relations Manager

[CMather@cityoftacoma.org](mailto:CMather@cityoftacoma.org)

C: 253-260-0440

**LaTasha Wortham**

Regional Relations Manager

[LWortham@cityoftacoma.org](mailto:LWortham@cityoftacoma.org)

C: 253-753-6858





## **LAKEWOOD CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

Tuesday, September 8, 2020

City of Lakewood

<https://www.youtube.com/user/cityoflakewoodwa>

Telephone via Zoom: +1(253) 215- 8782

Participant ID: 86872632373

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### **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

### **ROLL CALL**

Councilmembers Present: 7 – Mayor Anderson, Deputy Mayor Jason Whalen; Councilmembers Mary Moss, Mike Brandstetter, John Simpson, Linda Farmer and Paul Bocchi.

Councilmember Bocchi arrived at 7:01 p.m.

### **PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

**Proclamation declaring September 11, 2020 as Patriot Day and Day of Remembrance. – *Police Chief Zaro, Lakewood Police Department and Chief Jim Sharp, West Pierce Fire and Rescue***

MAYOR ANDERSON PRESENTED A PROCLAMATION DECLARING SEPTEMBER 11, 2020 AS PATRIOT DAY AND DAY OF REMEMBRANCE TO POLICE CHIEF MIKE ZARO, LAKEWOOD POLICE DEPARTMENT AND FIRE CHIEF JIM SHARP, WEST PIERCE FIRE AND RESCUE.

### **Clover Park School District Report.**

Clover Park School District (CPSD) Boardmember Anthony Veliz reported that school started virtually this year; each student received a computer and is primarily using the Microsoft Teams platform. He shared that virtual learning resources are available on the districts website and meals continue to be provided weekdays at schools and various sites throughout the community. He shared that CPSD is working towards moving elementary students to a hybrid model, which may take place towards the end of September. He then highlighted administrative staff changes and noted that late start Wednesdays will begin on September 23<sup>rd</sup> and CPSD Board meetings will be held on September 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> starting at 6:00 p.m. Discussion ensued.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Speaking before Council were:

*Dennis Haugen, Sioux Falls, South Dakota resident*, spoke about rioting, looting and protesting that has taken place in Washington cities and voting out those in public office who support these actions.

*Charles Ames, Lakewood resident*, commented that it should be standard for Councilmembers to call in and attend meetings rather than be absent.

*Craig Chambers, Lakewood resident*, spoke in opposition to proposed code amendments that would limit or ban fireworks.

*Laura Burt, Lakewood resident*, spoke about increasing police response and regulation related to fireworks that are discharged outside of the allowed days due to the disruption they cause within neighborhoods.

*Amelia Escobedo, Lakewood resident*, spoke in opposition to proposed code amendments related to fireworks and in support of the current law. She also spoke about police use of force arrests, addressing systemic racism and accountability of the Lakewood Police Department.

## C O N S E N T   A G E N D A

- A. Approval of the minutes of the City Council study session of August 10, 2020.
- B. Approval of the minutes of the City Council meeting of August 17, 2020.
- C. Approval of the minutes of the City Council study session of August 24, 2020.
- D. Approval of claims vouchers, in the amount of \$2,449,342.43, for the period of July 17, 2020 through August 17, 2020.
- E. Approval of payroll checks, in the amount of \$2,415,472.14, for the period of July 16, 2020 through August 15, 2020.
- F. Motion No. 2020-45

Authorizing the execution of an interlocal agreement with the Clover Park School District for the purchase of fuel for the period September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021.

- G. Motion No. 2020-46

Authorizing the execution of the Pierce County Conservation Futures Agreement to Fund and Pierce County Conservation Futures Stewardship Agreement and Declaration of Restrictive Covenants to acquire .24 acres of land near Wards Lake Park.

H. Motion No. 2020-47

Confirming the appointment and authorizing the execution of an agreement with Lisa Mansfield as Municipal Court Judge for the period of October 1, 2020 through December 31, 2021.

I. Motion No. 2020-48

Appointing Asuka Ludden, Jessica Christensen, Jarnail Singh and Phillip Raschke to serve on the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee through November 1, 2022.

## J. Items filed in the Office of the City Clerk:

1. Lakewood's Promise Advisory Board meeting minutes of December 5, 2019.
2. Landmarks and Heritage Advisory Board meeting minutes of February 27, 2020.

COUNCILMEMBER MOSS MOVED TO ADOPT THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER FARMER. VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

## R E G U L A R   A G E N D A

### PUBLIC HEARINGS AND APPEALS

**This is the date set for a public hearing regarding proposed code amendments related to fireworks.**

Public Comments were included on page 181 through page 376 of the City Council agenda packet of September 8, 2020. In addition, the following individuals provided comments which were provided to the City Council electronically in advance of the meeting: Sean Clonch, F. Leroy Reed, Malcolm Russell and Ruth Ann Russell.

There being no further public testimony, the public hearing was declared closed at 8:15 p.m.

Discussion ensued and the City Council requested two Ordinance's come forward for consideration at the regular meeting of September 21<sup>st</sup>, one option to restrict the discharge of fireworks to July 4<sup>th</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup> only and a second option which will result in a complete ban on the discharge of fireworks in the city.

### RESOLUTION

**Resolution No. 2020-13 Declaring the intent of the Lakewood City Council to affirm the Downtown Subarea Plan, Development Code and Planned Action as adopted in Ordinance 695 and Ordinance 696**



DEPUTY MAYOR WHALEN MOVED ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2020-13. SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BOCCHI. VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Discussion regarding Coronavirus Relief Funding (CRF) allocations.**

Mayor Anderson shared that the City has been allocated an additional \$895,000 in Coronavirus Relief Funds from Washington State Department of Commerce.

Planning Manager Speir then provided an update allocations to date and provided options for allocating the additional funding. She shared that options to consider for the additional allocations include direct costs incurred by the city such as payroll, facility improvements and personal protective equipment and distribution of additional funds to entities for rental assistance or small business relief.

Discussion ensued and it is recommended that funding be allocated for commercial rental assistance, non-profits that may provide locations for students to access WiFi or technology, childcare providers, city personnel costs, and to small businesses who did not get selected in the initial lottery. A summary of this direction will come forward for City Council review on September 14<sup>th</sup>.

## **REPORTS BY THE CITY MANAGER**

### **Information Technology Strategic Plan Update.**

Chief Information Officer White provided an overview of current information technology projects.

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City Manager Caulfield recognized Assistant Police Chief John Unfred and several Police Officer's including the Unmanned Ariel Unit for their work as they were dispatched to help with the fire response and evacuating several neighborhoods due to the fires in Sumner and Bonney Lake.

He shared that the state legislature has extended the Open Public Meeting Act (OPMA) waiver through October 1<sup>st</sup> therefore the Council meetings will continue virtually and a Proclamation recognizing the City of Gimhae, South Korea for their donation of masks and Personal Protective Equipment will be presented at the City Council meeting on September 21<sup>st</sup>.

He then shared that the Spring Community Clean-Up event has been rescheduled for Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

He noted that the city's website now includes a landing page dedicated to lake front street ends and a link to Parks and Recreation Advisory Board report. It is anticipated that a request to update the report will come forward in the 2021-22 budget.

He then shared that Assistant City Manager for Administrative Services Kraus will provide a financial report at the September 14<sup>th</sup> study session. He noted that overall the General Fund revenues are under budget projections by \$540,000 which were impacted due to a decrease in gambling tax, admissions tax, parks & recreation fees although action strategies to address the shortfalls, such as eliminating discretionary spending, that have been put in place are working.

He then provided an update on the I-5 JBLM Corridor Improvement Project noting that WSDOT is proposing no longer adding a fourth general purpose lane but an HOV island instead and Representative Jake Fey is proposing to add HOV lanes on I-5 from 38<sup>th</sup> Street through Thorne Lane.

He shared that Sound Transit is considering schedule changes to projects based on COVID-19 impacts and more information will be provided to the City Council as it becomes available.

#### **CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS**

The Mayor and City Councilmembers expressed their thanks to the City of Gimhae, South Korea for their generous donation of masks and personal protective equipment.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:02 p.m.

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DON ANDERSON, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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BRIANA SCHUMACHER  
CITY CLERK



## **LAKEWOOD CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MINUTES**

Monday, September 14, 2020

City of Lakewood

<https://www.youtube.com/user/cityoflakewoodwa>

Telephone via Zoom: +1(253) 215- 8782

Participant ID: 868 7263 2373

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### **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

### **ROLL CALL**

Councilmembers Present: 7 – Mayor Don Anderson; Deputy Mayor Jason Whalen; Councilmembers Mary Moss, Mike Brandstetter, John Simpson, Linda Farmer and Paul Bocchi.

Deputy Mayor Whalen arrived at 7:14 p.m.

Landmarks and Heritage Advisory Board Members Present: 3 – Chair Speith, Joan Cooley and Beth Campbell.

### **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:**

#### **Joint Landmarks and Heritage Advisory Board meeting.**

Chair Speith and Ms. Campbell highlighted the boards 2020 workplan items which include a historic streets recognition program, historic walking tours, and coordination with the Clover Park School District to incorporate a local history academic program and pop up museum at schools. The board is also working to engage the Youth Council and is actively recruiting new members.

#### **Review of 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter (2020) Financial Report.**

Assistant City Manager for Administrative Services Kraus provided an overview of activity in all funds through June 30, 2020. Discussion ensued related to Real Estate Excise Tax (REET), revenues, and Police Department performance measures.

#### **Prosecution Services Update.**

Assistant City Attorney Johnson provided an overview of prosecution services to date. Discussion ensued related to the decline in revenues for fines, restitution, options for work crew or public service in lieu of jail time and grant funding from the Office of Crime Victims STOP violence grant program.

**Review of Coronavirus Relief Funding (CRF) allocations.**

Planning Manager Speir reported that an additional \$895,050 from the Washington State Department of Commerce in Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF) has been allocated to the City. She provided a summary of proposed distributions, which would provide additional funding for small business assistance, rental assistance for commercial landlords, childcare services, city payroll, facilities and personal protective equipment. Discussion ensued related to allocations and the ability for the City to distribute funds prior to the deadline of November 30<sup>th</sup>.

City Manager Caulfield also reported that the City received an additional \$450,000 in CARES Act funding for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program.

**ITEMS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR THE SEPTEMBER 21, 2020 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING:**

1. Swearing-In Ceremony of Municipal Court Judge. – *Ms. Lisa Mansfield*
2. Proclamation thanking the City of Gimhae, South Korea for their donation of masks and Personal Protective Equipment, as well as for their continued friendship and support.
3. Tacoma Public Utilities Budget and Rate Development Presentation. – *Ms. LaTasha Wortham, Regional Relations Manager*
4. Amending Lakewood Municipal Code Chapter 8.68 related to fireworks. – (Ordinance – Regular Agenda)
5. Update on Population Allocations. – (Reports by the City Manager)

**REPORTS BY THE CITY MANAGER**

City Manager Caulfield shared that Veterans Drive and Onyx Drive projects are progressing and it is anticipated that both projects will be completed by the end of 2020. He then shared that the Harry Todd Waterfront Restoration work kicked off this week, as did the Angle Lane South improvements and construction of restroom and kitchen at the Fort Steilacoom Park Pavilion will begin within the next few weeks.

He shared that after a successful season with increased participation and sales due to the location and time change, the Farmers Market will be extended into October, weather permitting, as several of the vendors have expressed interest in continuing.

He then shared that in 2020 the State Legislature enacted Engrossed Substitute House Bill (ESHB) 1754 related to limiting the ability of cities and counties to regulate homeless encampments operated by religious organizations. It is proposed that the ESSB 1754 text be hyperlinked into Lakewood Municipal Code Title 18A, under its own chapter rather than attempting to modify the legislation into the current code. The Planning Commission will begin review of the proposed amendments this fall followed by a recommendation to the City Council.

He shared that the Sound Transit Executive Committee met today and announced that given the economic impacts of COVID-19, Sound Transit is looking to pause a number of projects throughout their service area until 2021. This recommendation includes the South Tacoma and Lakewood Station parking improvements and the Sounder Maintenance facility project, the City is preparing a letter expressing concerns and requesting these projects not be paused.

He then shared that WSDOT has scheduled a meeting this week to continue discussions related to the I-5 JBLM Shared Use Path, which is part of the I-5 JBLM Corridor Improvement Project.

### **CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilmember Bocchi shared that the Youth Council had their first meeting of the school year this evening noting that Black Lives Matter, social justice and youth mental health were the top issues that the students expressed an interest in addressing this year.

Councilmember Farmer shared that she provided remarks at the Clover Park School District board meeting this evening, this week she will attend the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) Large City Advisory Committee and a Diversity Training hosted the National League of Cities.

Councilmember Moss shared that she attended the Lakewood's Promise Advisory Board virtual meeting where they reviewed the boards 2020 work plan in advance of the joint meeting with the City Council scheduled for October 28<sup>th</sup>. She commented on a Community Garden ribbon-cutting event that she attended.

Deputy Mayor Whalen shared that last week he attended a ribbon-cutting event for a Community Garden that was created by residents in the community.

Mayor Anderson shared that he attended Puget Sound Regional Council Transportation Policy Board meeting and noted that the draft Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) has been released and will be considered by the Board for adoption in October.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

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DON ANDERSON, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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BRIANA SCHUMACHER  
CITY CLERK

# REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

<b>DATE ACTION IS REQUESTED:</b> September 21, 2020	<b>TITLE:</b> Authorizing the execution of documents required to acquire real property located at 12616 47 <sup>th</sup> Avenue SW.	<b>TYPE OF ACTION:</b> — ORDINANCE NO. — RESOLUTION NO. <u>X</u> MOTION NO.2020-49 — OTHER
<b>REVIEW:</b>	<b>ATTACHMENTS:</b>	

**SUBMITTED BY:** Heidi Ann Wachter, City Attorney

**RECOMMENDATION:** It is recommended that the City Council authorize the City Manager to execute all necessary documents required to acquire real property located at 12616 47<sup>th</sup> Ave. S, Lakewood, WA 98499, tax parcel #021912-3032.


**DISCUSSION:** The identified property is the third and final property necessary to complete this side of Springbrook Park between the existing parking lots, surrounding streets and Clover Creek. The other two properties have been cleared leaving this single developed lot in the middle of the block surrounded by park. The City will be enhancing the recently purchased property to accommodate anticipated population growth in this area as well as restoring areas in and around Clover Creek.

Since 2001 the City has purchased parcels in the Springbrook neighborhood and leveraged resources to create a neighborhood park, Springbrook Park. This area of the City is located in a geographically isolated area with no public gathering spaces. According to the city's parks and recreation master plan, the area is underserved by park land and local residents are economically challenged. The current 6.5 acre park has become the central gathering place for the neighborhood and because of the many partnerships, has helped create a new and vibrant sense of community in this area.

On June 15, 2020 the City Council authorized the condemnation of the referenced property. Execution of the necessary documents allows the City to acquire this property without further litigation.

**ALTERNATIVE(S):** The City could choose to continue with eminent domain, adding to the acquisition cost the cost of further litigation.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** Approximately \$184,000 from the City's Parks CIP, exclusive of acquisition services.

Heidi Ann Wachter Prepared by	 City Manager Review
_____ Department Director	

## **FISCAL IMPACT:** (continued)

The overall breakdown is as follows:

Property -	\$99,000
Structures -	\$50,000
Compromise -	<u>\$35,000</u>
Total	\$184,000

In order to fully understand how this compromise was reached we need to first understand what was valued and why, as well as what additional benefits the property owner would be entitled to, as well as the overall benefit this has for the City by completing the land acquisitions for this park.

First it should be noted that the 2020 tax valuation for the property totals \$146,300. This consists of \$91,300 for the land and \$55,000 for the structures. Therefore the amount offered for the land and buildings totaling \$149,000 is very consistent with the valuation of the assessor, being less than a 5% differential. While assessed valuations are not a perfect measure of market value, the values are often relied upon in making initial offers.

Second, the original estimate of value of the City's appraiser completed in February 2020 determined the total value of land and buildings to be \$152,000. This was slightly higher than the assessed value but consistent with the value determined by the assessor and deemed credible. Although the appraisal of February of 2020 was clearly justifiable, it was revised to be consistent with the stated position of the property owner that the storage building was personal property that he intended to move, in spite of the fact that it would ordinarily be characterized as part of the realty. Characterizing the storage building as personal property reduced the overall value of the property to \$99,000 which served as the basis for the initial offer. However, shortly after making the initial offer the property owner upon the advice of a friend realized that characterizing the storage unit as personal property was not financially sound, nor was it consistent with appropriate legal standards. Accordingly, the property owners initial counter offer was \$260,900, just under \$110,000 higher than the initial appraisal. However, the counter offer did not address relocation assistance which must be paid separately from just compensation unless waived.

Although the appraisal clearly justified payment for the entire purchase of the land and realty, it did not address the City's liability for payment of relocation assistance, including but not limited to actual move costs, advisory services and purchase price differential. Although a formal relocation plan was not developed early estimates suggested relocation costs could run up to approximately \$20,000 due to the number of vehicles, unknown contents in the storage unit, etc. However, due to escalating real estate prices in Pierce County and lack of inventory following the initial COVID19 shutdown, we were advised following the initial offer being made, that the purchase price differential could be significant and would likely exceed the original relocation cost estimate. In this instance however, the property owner did not wish to engage in the relocation process which is a reimbursement program, instead choosing to negotiate for greater purchase price and waiving any claim for relocation assistance.

Considering that the matter has been settled essentially outside of litigation, saving what could be significant legal fees in dealing with a pro se Respondent, that all claims for relocation assistance has been waived, and the final settlement is approximately within Twenty percent of both the assessed and appraised values for the property, this is a justifiable settlement. The acquisition also completes the land acquisitions for the park fulfilling a promise to the citizens of Lakewood and removes what has been an eyesore in the neighborhood and the subject of numerous code enforcement actions.

# REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

**DATE ACTION IS REQUESTED:**

Sepetmber 21, 2020

**REVIEW:**

**TITLE:** Appointing Public Safety Advisory Committee members.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Candidate applications

**TYPE OF ACTION:**

— ORDINANCE

— RESOLUTION

X MOTION NO. 2020-50

— OTHER

**SUBMITTED BY:** Briana Schumacher, City Clerk on behalf of Mayor Don Anderson

**RECOMMENDATION:** It is recommended that the City Council confirm the Mayor's reappointment of James Hairston and Mark Peila to serve on the Public Safety Advisory Committee through August 6, 2023 and the appointment of Tod Wolf to serve on the Public Safety Advisory Committee through August 6, 2021.

**DISCUSSION:** Notices and outreach to seek volunteers to fill vacancies on the Public Safety Advisory Committee were sent to neighborhood associations, civic groups, community organizations, The News Tribune and The Suburban Times. In addition, articles were distributed through the City's Weekly Informational Bulletins and posted on the City's website.

The role of the Public Safety Advisory Committee is to provide citizen input and advice to the City Council in developing and monitoring public safety policies. The Committee will report to the Council and will also assist the Council in assessing that department resources allow for compliance with City and department policies.

The Public Safety Advisory Committee shall annually provide to the City Council a report on progress made in carrying out the Committee's responsibilities. Additional reports may be deemed appropriate by the Public Safety Advisory Committee and/or the City Council.

**ALTERNATIVE(S):** The Council could choose not to confirm the appointment or re-advertise for these positions.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** There is no fiscal impact.

Briana Schumacher, City Clerk

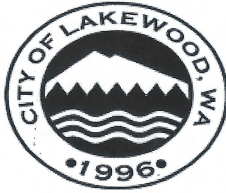
Prepared by

  
City Manager Review

Heidi Ann Wachter, City Attorney

Department Director





**CITY OF LAKEWOOD**

6000 Main Street SW  
Lakewood, WA 98499

**APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT**

*The information in this document is subject to public disclosure and can be made available to the public.  
(Attach additional pages if necessary to complete answers.)*

I wish to be considered for appointment to the following committee, board or commission:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arts Commission   | <input type="checkbox"/> Parks and Recreation Advisory Board         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Services Advisory Board   | <input type="checkbox"/> Planning Commission                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lakewood's Promise Advisory Board   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Safety Advisory Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Landmarks and Heritage Advisory Board   | <input type="checkbox"/> Salary Commission                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (Members of<br>this committee must be representative of an agency<br>involved in tourism promotion.) |  |

**EXPECTATIONS:** Adhere to City of Lakewood's Code of Ethics and regular attendance at meetings is required.

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO:** City of Lakewood - City Clerk's Office  
6000 Main Street SW  
Lakewood, WA 98499  
(253) 983-7705 Fax: (253) 589-3774  
Email: bschumacher@cityoflakewood.us

Name: **James Hairston**

(Please Print)

Home Address: **5004 83rd St SW**

City: **Lakewood**

State: **WA** Zip: **98499**

Home Phone Number: **253-472-7575** E-mail: **jhairston787@msn.com**

Present Employer: **Retired**

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell: **253-380-9376**

**LODGING TAX ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPLICANT QUESTIONS:**

Are you representing a business that is required to collect lodging tax? Yes ☐ No ☐

Have you previously served or are you currently on one of the Lakewood's Boards, Committees or Commissions? Yes No If yes, please explain (include names of Boards, Committees or Commissions and the dates that you served:

PSAC - 1 partial term (Feb 1, 2016 - Aug 6, 2017) and one full term (Aug 21, 2017 thru August 6, 2020)

Date available for appointment: Immediately

Are you available to attend evening meetings? Yes ☒ No ☐

Are you available to attend daytime meetings? Yes ☒ No ☐

Recommended by: \_\_\_\_\_

Education:

Bachelor of Arts Degree; Masters Degree in Systems Management; US Army War College Graduate

Professional and/or community activities:

Member Lakewood PSAC; President of Creekside Oaks Homeowners Association; Community member on Clover Park Facilities Advisory Committee; Member of Clover Park Rotary Club

Please share some of the experiences or qualifications that you have relating to the work of this board, committee or commission:

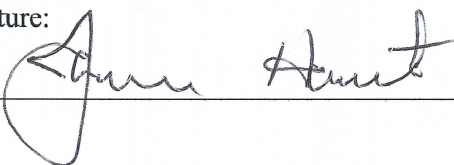
Having served in the HOA for several years, i find that many issues and concerns can be heard from the community and brought back to the PSAC for consideration and as information to bring to the city council. As a military commander at many levels, this type work is quite similar to issues dealt with in military communities.

Please explain why you would like to be part of this board, committee or commission:

Having previously served on this committee, I am aware of the importance of such a committee and its usefulness to the community when the community helps by using the committe as a tool to engage/inform the city and vice versa.

I hereby certify that this application and any other materials and/or documents provided in this application process contains no willful misrepresentation and that the information given is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature:



Date:

7/16/2020



**CITY OF LAKEWOOD**  
6000 Main Street SW  
Lakewood, WA 98499

**APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT**

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(Attach additional pages if necessary to complete answers.)*

I wish to be considered for appointment to the following committee, board or commission:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arts Commission   | <input type="checkbox"/> Parks and Recreation Advisory Board         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Services Advisory Board   | <input type="checkbox"/> Planning Commission                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lakewood's Promise Advisory Board   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Safety Advisory Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Landmarks and Heritage Advisory Board   | <input type="checkbox"/> Salary Commission                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (Members of<br>this committee must be representative of an agency<br>involved in tourism promotion.) |  |

**EXPECTATIONS:** Adhere to City of Lakewood's Code of Ethics and regular attendance at meetings is required.

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO:** City of Lakewood - City Clerk's Office  
6000 Main Street SW  
Lakewood, WA 98499  
(253) 983-7705 Fax: (253) 589-3774  
Email: bschumacher@cityoflakewood.us

Name: Mark S. Peila  
(Please Print)

Home Address: 4906 83<sup>rd</sup> ST SW

City: Lakewood State: WA Zip: 98499

Home Phone Number: 253-307-0830 E-mail: PeilaMs1965@hotmail.com

Present Employer: Retired

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

**LODGING TAX ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPLICANT QUESTIONS:**

Are you representing a business that is required to collect lodging tax? Yes ☐ No ☐

Are you involved in activities authorized to be funded by revenues received from lodging tax? Yes ☐ No ☐

Have you previously served or are you currently on one of the Lakewood's Boards, Committees or Commissions? Yes No If yes, please explain (include names of Boards, Committees or Commissions and the dates that you served:

Public Safety Advisory Committee  
10/17 To Present

Date available for appointment: Now

Are you available to attend evening meetings? Yes ☒ No ☐

Are you available to attend daytime meetings? Yes ☒ No ☐

Recommended by: James Hairston

Education: High School  
University and College classes  
Journeyman Steamfitter

Professional and/or community activities:

Retired HVAC Instructor Bate Technical College  
Active in Labor organizations and Apprenticeship

Please share some of the experiences or qualifications that you have relating to the work of this board, committee or commission:

Have served on this committee for a number of years.  
Safety has always been part of my training & teaching as  
part of the construction industry

Please explain why you would like to be part of this board, committee or commission:

I'm concerned for the safety of our community. I want to  
be an advocate for those who have safety issues. I have enjoyed  
working with and support APD and fire department.

I hereby certify that this application and any other materials and/or documents provided in this application process contains no willful misrepresentation and that the information given is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature:

Mark A. Smith

Date: 7/17/2020



**CITY OF LAKEWOOD**

6000 Main Street SW  
Lakewood, WA 98499

**APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT**

*The information in this document is subject to public disclosure and can be made available to the public.  
(Attach additional pages if necessary to complete answers.)*

I wish to be considered for appointment to the following committee, board or commission:

<input type="checkbox"/> Arts Commission	<input type="checkbox"/> Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
<input type="checkbox"/> Community Services Advisory Board	<input type="checkbox"/> Planning Commission
<input type="checkbox"/> Lakewood's Promise Advisory Board	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Safety Advisory Committee
<input type="checkbox"/> Landmarks and Heritage Advisory Board	<input type="checkbox"/> Salary Commission
<input type="checkbox"/> Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (Members of this committee must be representative of an agency involved in tourism promotion.)	

**EXPECTATIONS:** Adhere to City of Lakewood's Code of Ethics and regular attendance at meetings is required.

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO:** City of Lakewood - City Clerk's Office  
6000 Main Street SW  
Lakewood, WA 98499  
(253) 983-7705 Fax: (253) 589-3774  
Email: bschumacher@cityoflakewood.us

Tod M. Wolf

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print)

Home Address: 8401 112th Street SW  
Lakewood WA 98498

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone Number: 253-830-4774 E-mail: Wolf@robis.com

Present Employer: Robi's Quik Color Lab, Inc.

Address: 10015 Gravelly Lake Drive SW 253-584-0210

Cell: 253-830-4774

**LODGING TAX ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPLICANT QUESTIONS:**

Are you representing a business that is required to collect lodging tax? Yes ☐ No ☒

Are you involved in activities authorized to be funded by revenues received from lodging tax? Yes ☒ No ☐

Have you previously served or are you currently on one of the Lakewood's Boards, Committees or Commissions? Yes No If yes, please explain (include names of Boards, Committees or Commissions and the dates that you served:

Yes.

I currently serve on the City of Lakewood's Arts Commission.

I am a board member and past Chair of the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce.

Sept. 2020

Date available for appointment: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you available to attend evening meetings? Yes ☒ No ☐

Are you available to attend daytime meetings? Yes ☒ No ☐

Linda Smith

Recommended by: \_\_\_\_\_

Education:

BA at Eastern WA University School of Fine Arts - Theatre

Minor in Communication/ Business Communication

Professional and/or community activities:

I host a number of art/photography walk and seminars per (normal) year. I have been auctioneer for some charity auctions.

Please share some of the experiences or qualifications that you have relating to the work of this board, committee or commission:

I am an active member of the local business community. I am interested all things local that may build the attraction to living and doing business in Lakewood safely. While raising a large family in Lakewood, I believe I have brought a unique view to other groups from the family/children perspective.

Our business has experienced a variety of criminal activity, raising my awareness

Please explain why you would like to be part of this board, committee or commission:

I am already in positions that lead general folks to asking me what I know about changes, policies, and events in town. I like to be informed, and able to share details that promote the good work being done among todays (many online) commentators and others who do not see the big picture.

I hope adding my voice and world view to the safety discussions for Lakewood will

I hereby certify that this application and any other materials and/or documents provided in this application process contains no willful misrepresentation and that the information given is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature:



9-08-2020

Date: \_\_\_\_\_





**LAKEWOOD PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
Tuesday January 28, 2020 – 5:30 PM  
City Hall, Council Chambers  
6000 MAIN ST SW  
LAKEWOOD, WA 98499**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Vito Iacobazzi called the meeting to order at 5:29 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE**

**PRAB Members Present:** Vito Iacobazzi, Sylvia Allen, Mike Darrah, Susan Dellinger, Michael Lacadie

**PRAB Members Excused:** Jason Gerwen, Alan Billingsley

**Staff Present:** Mary Dodsworth – Director, Nikki York – Office Assistant

**Council Liaison:** Linda Farmer

**Youth Council Liaison:** Gloria Arauja Ruiz-present, Yajaira Gonzalez-present, Anaya Davis-absent, Brian Noel-absent, Kayala Purdie-absent, Samantha Reed-absent, Kloe Salazar-absent

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Michael Lacadie moved and Sylvia Allen seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the November 26, 2019 meeting as written. MPU.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Introductions:** Everyone introduced themselves to Councilmember Linda Farmer. Year in review video was shown.

**Elect Chair/Vice-Chair:** Michael Lacadie made a motion to keep Jason Gerwen as Chair and Vito Iacobazzi as Vice-Chair. Sylvia Allen seconded. MPU.

**Review 2020 Work Plan:** Reviewed and updated the draft 2020 Parks and Recreation work plan for Council review in January:

**CPSD Cooperative Use Agreement:** Mary Dodsworth explained the process for creating the interlocal agreement with Clover Park School District. Susan Dellinger asked if this agreement would allow schools to be used during non-school hours as parks. Mary noted that this agreement was for coordinated City/District use of facilities and not drop in or community use. Discussion followed. Mary will include those comments during presentation to Council.

**Directors Report:** Mary Dodsworth reviewed the Directors Report including, 2020 Capital projects updates (Springbrook expansion, Gateways, Chambers Creek Trail, Harry Todd Park Improvements, Fort Steilacoom Park Pavilion, Fort Steilacoom Park Angle Lane South, Edgewater Park Survey, Wards Lake Park improvements, FSP Pavilion, Seeley Lake update, Service Club Sign installation). National Cyclocross Race at Fort Steilacoom Park, Christmas Tree Lighting and Parade, Reminder about the upcoming Martin Luther King Jr Celebration on February 1, and community outreach.



**Board Comments:**

Vito Iacobazzi welcomed Linda Farmer to the Board

**NEXT MEETING:** The next PRAB meeting is scheduled for Tuesday February 25, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. in the American Lake Room at the Lakewood City Hall

**ADJOURNMENT:** Mike Darrah moved to adjourn the meeting. Michael Lacadie seconded. MPU. The meeting adjourned at 6:41 p.m.



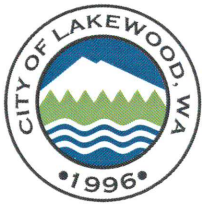
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Jason Gerwen, Chairman



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Nikki York, Office Assistant



**PLANNING COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
July 15, 2020  
Zoom Meeting  
6000 Main Street SW  
Lakewood, WA 98499**

**Call to Order**

The ZOOM meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mr. Don Daniels, Chair.

**Roll Call**

Planning Commission Members Present: Don Daniels, Chair; Ryan Pearson, Paul Wagemann, and James Guerrero

Planning Commission Members Excused: Nancy Hudson-Echols and Connie Coleman-Lacadie  
Commission Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Tiffany Speir, Long Range & Strategic Planning Manager; and Karen Devereaux, Administrative Assistant

Council Liaison: Councilmember Mr. Paul Bocchi (not present)

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on June 3, 2020 were approved as written by voice vote M/S/C Pearson/Guerrero. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

**Agenda Updates**

None

**Public Comments**

This meeting was held over the computer as a ZOOM meeting to comply with Governor Inslee's Emergency Proclamations 20-25 and 20-28. Citizens were encouraged to virtually attend and to provide written comments prior to the meeting. No written public comments were received prior to the meeting. No additional attendees were logged in to the meeting for comment.

**Unfinished Business**

None

**Public Hearings**

None

**New Business**

*Shoreline Restoration Activities Annual Presentation*

Planning Commissioners hosted the first annual presentation receiving updates on the public education and outreach programs from partnering agency representatives. In learning that an effort is underway to acquire a motorized boat lift to help in cleaning the invasive Eurasian watermilfoil plant from watercraft and area lakes, commissioners were in support of this effort.

**Mr. James Guerrero made the motion to recommend that City Council provide a letter of support for acquiring a portable display and cleaning station for American Lake from the state Department of Fish and Wildlife. The motion was approved by voice vote M/S/C Guerrero/Wagemann. The motion carried unanimously, 4-0.**

2021 Comprehensive Plan Amendment Docket Schedule and Topics

Ms. Tiffany Speir explained Lakewood is beginning the process to compile the 2021 Comprehensive Plan amendment cycle docket. Ms. Speir provided an overview of the City's intended proposed amendments and the legal steps required to complete zoning map and text amendments. The current schedule to complete the process was discussed. The submittal deadline for 2021 CPA Docket applications was August 28. Staff would provide a list and description of the potential amendments for Planning Commission consideration on September 2, 2020.

**Report from Council Liaison**

None

**Reports from Commission Members and Staff**

Lakewood Station District Subarea Plan Status Update

Ms. Tiffany Speir provided a review explaining the consultant has completed the situational assessment and is now focusing effort on drafting the Planned Action for the LSDS plan. This work should be completed by the end of July then released for a 30-day public comment period. The Planned Action will not be presented for review or action by the Planning Commission per state SEPA process.

Ms. Speir reviewed the scheduled events noting commissioners will review the Draft Plan and Hybrid Form-Based Code from mid-September through early December this year before forwarding their recommendations. City Council action and adoption is scheduled for May 2021.

Future Agenda Topics

None

Area-Wide Planning / Land Use Updates

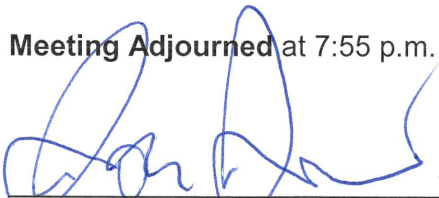
9/2/2020 Lakewood Station District Subarea Plan Updates

Commission Member Reports

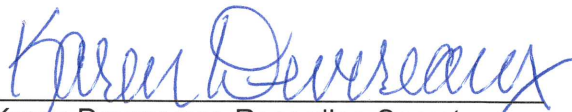
None

**Next Regular Meeting:** There would be no August 5th or August 19th meeting. The next meeting would be held on September 2, 2020 in the Lakewood City Council Chambers or virtually, depending on the status of COVID-19 social distancing restrictions.

**Meeting Adjourned** at 7:55 p.m.



Don Daniels, Chair  
Planning Commission 09/02/2020



Karen Devereaux, Recording Secretary  
Planning Commission 09/02/2020

# REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

**DATE ACTION IS REQUESTED:**

September 21, 2020

**TITLE:** Amending the  
Lakewood Municipal Code  
regulating Fireworks

**TYPE OF ACTION:**

  x   ORDINANCE NO. 742

**REVIEW:**

June 1, 2020

July 20, 2020

September 8, 2020

       RESOLUTION NO.

       MOTION NO.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Proposed Ordinance(s)

Public Comments

       OTHER

**SUBMITTED BY:** Heidi Ann Wachter, City Attorney

**RECOMMENDATION:** It is recommended that the City Council adopt legislation consistent with desired policy regarding the sale and discharge of fireworks within the City.

**DISCUSSION:** Two Ordinances are offered for Council consideration. Proposed Ordinance A would result in a complete ban on discharge of fireworks in the City. Proposed Ordinance B would restrict the dates discharge of fireworks are allowed to exclusively July 4<sup>th</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup>.

Both proposals include language to implement better consistency with state law but are otherwise drafted to specifically reflect Council direction resulting from several discussions and significant community input. Due to interest in banning sales of fireworks, scripted proposed amendatory language is also offered. This amendment can be incorporated into either proposed Ordinance.

**ALTERNATIVE(S):** The City Council can opt for no action with regard to fireworks. This will result in maintaining some language that may be outdated compared with current state law.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** The fiscal impact depends on the degree of enforcement.

Heidi Ann Wachter

Prepared by

Department Director



City Manager Review

ORDINANCE NO. 742

AN ORDINANCE of the City Council of the City of Lakewood, Washington, amending Chapter 8.68 of the Lakewood Municipal Code relating to fireworks.

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes the potential safety hazards inherent in the use of fireworks; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes that it is in the best interest of the citizens of Lakewood to limit the hours in which fireworks may be discharged; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable to bring the Lakewood Municipal Code in closer alignment with provisions of the RCW 70.77 State Fireworks Law;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD, WASHINGTON, DO ORDAIN as Follows:

Section 1. That Chapter 8.68 of the Lakewood Municipal Code is amended to read as follows:

**8.68.010 Definitions.**

The words and phrases herein used for the purposes of this chapter shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them in this section, except in those instances where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

“~~Common Consumer~~ fireworks” includes only such fireworks that have been defined in RCW [70.77.136](#) ~~or WAC 212-17-035~~.

“Dangerous fireworks” includes all fireworks which do not meet the common fireworks definition under RCW [70.77.136](#) ~~or WAC 212-17-035~~.

“Fireworks stands” includes all displays and locations where fireworks are displayed in connection with sale of fireworks, offered for sale or are stored. Fireworks stands includes temporary fireworks stands as well as permanent structures where fireworks are offered for sale or are stored.

“Person” includes any individual, firm, partnership, joint venture, association, corporation, estate, trust, receiver, syndicate or any other group or combination acting as a unit.

“Public display of fireworks” means an entertainment feature where the public is admitted or

permitted to view the display or discharge of dangerous fireworks.

“Sale at retail” includes any sale or transfer, including contracts or orders for sales or transfers, wherein any person at a fixed location or a place of business sells, transfers or gives fireworks to a consumer or user.

“Sale at wholesale” includes a sale or transfer to a retailer or any other person for resale, and which also includes any sale or transfer of fireworks to a permittee of a public display of fireworks. [Ord. 84 § 1, 1996.]

#### **8.68.020 General provisions.**

Each of the following are hereby declared to be unlawful within the City:

A. For any person to offer for sale, at retail or wholesale, or to sell, at retail or wholesale, any fireworks without having first obtained a permit or license to do so;

~~B. For any person to possess, use or explode any dangerous fireworks or any fireworks other than those listed as being able to be sold to the public in WAC 212-17-198, except as specifically provided for public displays in this chapter;~~

~~CB.~~ For any person to sell, ~~possess, use or explode any~~ fireworks except as provided in this chapter;

~~DC.~~ For any person to sell, at retail or wholesale, or offer for sale, at retail or wholesale, any fireworks to be sold within the City except from 12:00 noon on June 28th through 11:00 p.m. on July 4th. Fireworks may not be sold between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 9:00 a.m. from June 28th through July 3rd.

~~ED.~~ For any person to use, discharge or explode any fireworks, ~~in a negligent or reckless manner or during a period other than from 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. from July 3rd through July 5th of any year and from 11:00 p.m. December 31st to 1:00 a.m. January 1st.~~

~~1. For purposes of this section, “negligent manner” means in a manner which endangers or is likely to endanger persons, animals or property.~~

~~2. “Reckless manner” means in a manner with willful and wanton disregard for the safety of persons, animals or property.~~

~~FE.~~ For any person to sell, at retail or wholesale, or to offer for sale, at retail or wholesale, fireworks to any person under the age of 16 years of age. It shall be the responsibility of any seller of fireworks to obtain and/or require proof of age of any customer at the time of purchase, which proof requirement may be satisfied by inspecting the customer’s valid Washington State photo driver’s license or valid Washington State photo identification card or the equivalent thereof issued by another state or jurisdiction.

~~GF.~~ For any person under the age of 16 years of age to possess or to discharge any fireworks within the City without direct supervision of his/her parent or guardian.

~~HG.~~ In addition, it shall be unlawful for any person to use, discharge or explode any type of firework in any manner on any school grounds or park located within the City of Lakewood or in



any City rights-of-way. [Ord. 564 § 4, 2013; Ord. 416 § 1, 2006; Ord. 84 § 1, 1996.]

**8.68.030 Sales application – Permit.**

An application for a permit to offer for sale, at retail or wholesale, or to sell, at retail or wholesale, any fireworks within the City shall be made at the offices of the Fire Marshal for the City on or before June 10th of the year for which the permit is desired. Such a permit shall be issued only upon the following minimum conditions and requirements:

- A. The application shall be filed with and accompanied by a permit fee of \$100.00.
- B. Approval of the permit by the City Manager or designee, subsequent to an investigation by the City's Fire Marshal or designee.
- C. The application shall have a valid license issued by the state authorizing the holder thereof to engage in the business of sale of fireworks.
- D. If the applicant does not own or have the right to possess a temporary fireworks stand complying with the standards required for temporary fireworks stands, then the applicant shall have as a place for the sale of fireworks a building which is of fireproof construction and with proper firefighting equipment located therein, as approved by the City's Fire Marshal or his designee. In all cases, the placing of fireworks for display in the fireworks stand or place of sale shall be in such a manner as to be beyond the reach of customers.
- E. The applicant shall procure and maintain a policy or policies of public liability and property damage insurance with a company or companies acceptable to the City Attorney in the following amounts: \$100,000 or more for injuries to any one person in any one accident or occurrence; \$200,000 or more for injuries to two or more persons in any one act or occurrence; \$50,000 or more for damage to property in any one accident or occurrence. The City shall be named as an additional insured in each policy providing coverage in connection with the manufacture, importation, exportation, regulation, possession, sale, use and/or discharge of fireworks.
- F. The permittee's location or place business, if a temporary fireworks stand, shall be only in those areas or zones within the City which have been approved by the Fire Marshal of the City or designee. The permittee's location or place of business, if the fireworks stand or display is located within a permanent structure, shall be only in those zones within the City in which commercial businesses may be located.
- G. The applicant shall post with the City Clerk a performance bond or cash bond in the amount of not less than \$50.00, subject to the following conditions: The deposit shall be returned to the applicant only if the applicant promptly removes the temporary fireworks stand and cleans the area of its location to the satisfaction of the Fire Marshal or his designee, or, in the case of a fireworks stand being located within a permanent structure, if the applicant promptly cleans the area of its location to the satisfaction of the Fire Marshall or his designee. In the event that the applicant fails to do so, the performance bond or cash deposit shall be forfeited to the City. In no event shall the applicant be entitled to the return of the performance bond or the cash deposited if he/she fails to complete the above described work by July 15th of any year. [Ord. 84 § 1, 1996.]



**8.68.040 Fireworks stands.**

Fireworks stands shall conform to the requirements of Chapter [212-17](#) WAC and the following minimum standards, conditions and requirements:

- A. All fireworks stands shall be inspected and approved by the City's Fire Marshal or designee. Temporary fireworks stands need not comply with all of the provisions of the City's Building Code; provided, however, that all such temporary fireworks stands shall be erected under the supervision of the City's Fire Marshal or designee, or in accordance with the specified standards of the City's Fire Marshal or designee, including but not limited to the requirement that all temporary fireworks stands be constructed in a safe manner for both persons selling fireworks at the temporary fireworks stand and for potential customers of the temporary fireworks stand. In the event any fireworks stand is wired for and connected to electric power, then the wiring shall be approved by the City's Fire Marshal or the Electrical Inspector or their designee to ensure compliance with Article 502-2(a), Class II, Div. I of the N.E.C. or successor regulations.
- B. No temporary fireworks stand shall be located within 50 feet of any other building or structure constructed entirely or partially of combustible materials or with unprotected openings, nor within 20 feet of any building or structure constructed entirely of noncombustible materials; nor within 100 feet of any gas station, oil storage tank or premises where flammable liquids are kept or stored.
- C. Each fireworks stand must have at least two exits; which shall be unobstructed at all times.
- D. Each fireworks stand shall have in readily accessible places two or more extinguishers approved by the City's Fire Marshal or designee, and a two-gallon pail of water.
- E. All weeds, grass and combustible materials shall be cleared from the location of a fireworks stand and the surrounding area, a distance of not less than 20 feet measured from the exterior walls on each side of the fireworks stand.
- F. No smoking shall be permitted in or near a fireworks stand and fireworks stands shall be posted with "No Smoking" signs with letters at least two inches in height, in conspicuous places on all four sides of the fireworks stand. Each temporary fireworks stand or fireworks display within a permanent structure where fireworks are displayed and offered for sale shall have at least one adult in attendance at all times during which fireworks are available for sale.
- G. All unsold stock and accompanying litter shall be removed from the vicinity of the fireworks stand by 12:00 noon on July 5th of any year, and shall be stored and/or disposed of as provided in Chapter [212-17](#) WAC.
- H. There shall be no discharging or igniting of fireworks within 100 feet of any fireworks stand.
- I. No fireworks stand shall be located within 10 feet of a public sidewalk or street.
- J. There shall be no sleeping in any fireworks stands, nor within any structure where fireworks are stored.
- K. There shall be no matches, lighters, pressurized or nonpressurized propane, kerosene, gas, fuel oil lanterns, or similar devices, or other open flame devices stored, nor offered for sale in any fireworks stand, nor within any structure where fireworks are stored.

In the event that there are any conflicts between the provisions hereof and the provisions of

Chapter [212-17](#) WAC, the more restrictive of the two shall control. [Ord. 84 § 1, 1996.]

#### **8.68.050 Public displays of fireworks.**

A. *Application for Permits for Public Displays of Fireworks.* Any person desiring to give or make a display of fireworks within the City shall, not less than 10 days in advance of the proposed display, make an application for a permit to operate the public display, in writing, to the City Manager or designee. The application shall set forth the following information:

1. The name of the organization sponsoring the display, together with the names and addresses of persons actually in charge of the firing/presentation of the display;
2. The date and time of day at which the display is to be held;
3. The exact location planned for the display;
4. A description setting forth the age and experience of the persons who are to do the actual discharging of the fireworks, and copies of their public display permit issued pursuant to RCW [70.77.280](#) or comparable applicable statute;
5. The number, type and description of fireworks to be discharged;
6. The manner and place of storage of such fireworks prior to the display; and
7. A diagram of the grounds on which the display is to be held showing the point at which the fireworks are to be discharged, the location of all buildings, highways and other lines of transit or communication as well as telephone, electric and other utility lines and poles and any other structures, facilities or objects which could present overhead obstructions, located within 500 feet of the point of discharge.

B. *Fee for Public Display Permit.* There shall be no permit fee for a public display permit other than the license required by the State Fire Marshal.

C. *Investigation on Site – Certificate of Compliance by City’s Fire Marshal – Notice of Approval by City’s Fire Marshal or Designee.* Upon receipt of such application, at least 20 days in advance of the date set for the display, the City’s Fire Marshal or designee shall make an investigation of the site of the proposed display for the purpose of determining whether the provisions of these regulations are complied with in the case of the particular display. If the City’s Fire Marshal or designee is satisfied that the display is lawful and there has or will be full compliance with all applicable laws, state and local, then the City’s Fire Marshal or designee shall issue a written recommendation for or against the permit which shall be kept on file in the City’s Fire Marshal’s or designee’s office and available for review by authorized reviewing agencies. If the City’s Fire Marshal or designee finds that the permit applicant has complied with all applicable laws, then the City’s Fire Marshal or designee may issue a certificate of compliance stating an endorsement of the display as being in conformance with all applicable laws and with these regulations. For any scheduled public display, applicants must submit such information as is deemed appropriate by the City’s law enforcement agency to ensure that adequate traffic control and crowd protection policing and any other measures necessary or appropriate for public safety have been arranged either through private security agencies or through a contract with a law enforcement agency and/or with commissioned law enforcement

officers of the agency. A written notice that the applicant has complied with these requirements shall be issued by the City's Police Chief before a public display permit is issued; provided, that if the applicant should contract for traffic control and crowd protection policing with the City, for use of its law enforcement officers, in no event shall the sum agreed upon as payment for such policing be less than the actual expenses incurred by the City for providing such services. Such consideration shall be calculated in terms of personnel resources at the hourly rate for overtime under current collective bargaining agreements and/or rates of pay, plus that percentage which is paid by the public agency for fringe benefits, whichever applies, and all such sums paid under the contract shall be paid in accordance with procedures specified by the City's Fire Marshal.

D. Every public display of fireworks shall be handled by at least two competent operators approved by the City's Fire Marshal or designee, and every public display of fireworks shall be of such character, and so located, discharged or fired that, in the opinion of the City's Fire Marshal or designee, after proper investigation, it would not constitute a hazard to property or endanger any person.

E. A state pyrotechnics license is required for at least one operator at each public display of fireworks. The state licensed operator shall be the person who actually discharges or ignites the fireworks.

F. A bond or certificate of insurance must be furnished to the City Manager or designee before a permit is issued. The bond shall be in the amount of \$1,000,000 and shall be conditioned upon the applicant's payment of all damages to persons and property resulting from or caused by any public display of fireworks, or by any negligence on the part of the applicant or its agents, servants, employees or subcontractors in the presentation of the display. The certificate of insurance shall evidence a comprehensive general liability (including automobile coverage) insurance policy providing limits of \$1,000,000 combined single limit per occurrence and annual aggregate, naming the City of Lakewood as an additional insured. Any such bond or insurance policy must be approved by the City Attorney.

G. A cash deposit in the amount of \$500.00 must be posted with the City Manager or designee at least 30 days in advance of the public display date to provide for the costs of site cleanup. The deposit shall be forfeited to the City if the operator fails to perform such cleanup within six days of the public display. If the operator properly performs the cleanup, the deposit shall be returned to the operator.

H. *Storage.*

1. As soon as the fireworks have been delivered to the display site, they shall be attended and shall remain dry.
2. All shells shall be inspected upon delivery to the display site by the display operator. Any shells having tears, leaks, broken fuses or showing signs of having been wet shall be set aside and shall not be fired. After the display, any such shells shall be either returned to the supplier or destroyed according to the supplier's instructions.
3. All fireworks at the firing site must be stored in ready boxes (substantially constructed wood magazines). During the display, magazines must be 25 feet upwind (in relation to the firing item)

from the nearest mortar. Magazine lids must be open in the opposite direction of the firing. All ready boxes are to be protected by a flameproof water repellent canvas cover until emptied.

4. The shell storage area shall be located at a minimum distance of not less than 25 feet from the discharge site.

5. During the display, shells shall be stored upwind from the discharge site. If the winds shift during the display, the shell storage area shall be relocated to be upwind from the discharge site.

6. There shall be at least two 2A-rated fire extinguishers (two and one-half gallons water), UL approved kept as widely separated as possible within the actual area where the discharging will occur.

*I. Preparation of Site Crowd Control.*

1. All dry grass, weeds and other combustible waste within 50 feet of the firing site shall be removed.

2. The site shall be located so that the trajectory of shells shall not come within 50 feet of any overhead object including but not limited to aboveground telephone, telegraph or electric lines, trees or wooded areas.

3. Discharged fireworks shall not come within 100 feet of any tent or canvas shelter.

4. The firing and storage site shall be located not less than 200 feet from any building, public highway or railroad or other means of travel.

5. No boats shall be allowed within 200 feet of the firing or storage site.

6. The operators shall provide sufficient personnel to assure that no unauthorized persons are allowed within 200 feet of the firing and storage site. This requirement shall be in effect from one-half hour prior to the arrival of fireworks until the fireworks debris, equipment and fireworks have been removed from the site.

7. Spectators shall be restrained behind lines or barriers at least 200 feet from the firing and storage locations.

*J. Installation of Mortars.*

1. Mortars shall be inspected by the operators for dents, bent ends, and cracked or broken plugs prior to ground placement. Mortars found to be defective in any way shall not be used. Any scale on the inside surface of the mortars shall be removed.

2. Mortars shall be positioned so that the shells are carried away from spectators and buildings. When fired over water, mortars shall be installed at an angle of not less than 10 degrees, pointed towards the water.

3. Mortars shall be either buried securely into the ground to a depth of two-thirds to three-fourths of their length or fastened securely in mortar boxes or drums. In soft ground, heavy timber or rock slabs shall be placed beneath the mortars to prevent their sinking or being driven into the ground during firing.

4. In damp ground, a weather-resistant bag should be placed under the bottom of the mortar prior to placement in the ground to protect the mortar against moisture.

5. Weather-resistant bags shall be placed over the open end of the mortar in damp weather to keep moisture from accumulating inside the surface of the mortar.

K. *Operation of the Display.*

1. The operators shall provide fire protection at the site as required by the City's Fire Marshal or designee.
2. Only permitted fireworks are authorized for use.
3. When display is fired from a barge or vessel, a secured area shall be established around the barge or vessel to prevent boats from entering the fallout area. No boats shall be allowed within 200 feet of the firing or storage site. A boat shall be on standby to remove personnel from the barge and otherwise respond in the case of an emergency. Additional fire extinguishers, rated 2A minimum, shall be on the barge and so spaced that an extinguisher shall be available at all times.
4. If, in the opinion of the City's Fire Marshal or designee or authorized representative, lack of crowd control should pose a danger, the display shall be immediately discontinued until such time as the situation is corrected.
5. If at any time high winds or unusually wet weather prevail such that in the opinion of the City's Fire Marshal or designee or authorized representative of the display operators, a definite fire danger exists, the public display shall be discontinued or postponed until weather conditions improve so as to permit safe discharge of fireworks.
6. Light snow or mist need not cause cancellation of the display; however, all materials used in the display shall be protected from the weather until immediately prior to use.
7. Display operators and assistants shall use only flashlights or approved electrical lighting for artificial illumination.
8. No smoking or open flames shall be allowed within 50 feet of the firing or storage area so long as shells are present. Signs to this effect shall be conspicuously posted.
9. The first shell fired shall be carefully observed to determine that its trajectory will carry it into the intended firing range and that the shell functions are over and any debris falls into the planned landing area.
10. Mortars shall be re-angled or reset if necessary at any time during the display to properly adjust the trajectory or landing area.
11. When a shell fails to ignite in the mortar, the mortar shall not be touched for a minimum of five minutes. After five minutes it shall be carefully flooded with water. Immediately following the display, the mortar shall be emptied into a bucket of water. The supplier shall be contacted as soon as possible for proper disposal instructions.
12. Operators shall not attempt to repair a damaged shell nor shall they attempt to dismantle a dry shell. In all such cases, the supplier shall be contacted as soon as possible for proper disposal instructions.
13. Operators shall not dry a wet shell, nor shall they lance or pot a wet shell for reuse.
14. The entire firing range shall be inspected immediately following the display to locate any defective shells. Any such shells found shall be immediately doused with water before handling. The shells shall be placed in a bucket of water. The supplier shall then be contacted as soon as possible for proper disposal instructions.
15. When fireworks are displayed in darkness, the sponsor shall ensure that the firing range is

inspected early the following morning.

16. Any fireworks remaining unfired after the display shall be immediately disposed of or removed from the City in a safe manner.

17. The debris from discharged fireworks shall be disposed of in a proper manner.

18. The operator shall further comply with the requirements of Chapter [212-17](#) WAC. In the event that the requirements of Chapter [212-17](#) WAC are inconsistent or in conflict with the provisions hereof, the more restrictive of the two shall control.

L. The denial by the City's Fire Marshal or designee of a permit for the public display of fireworks may be appealed to the City Council. If no such appeal is made within 60 days, the denial is final. [Ord. 416 § 1, 2006; Ord. 84 § 1, 1996.]

#### **8.68.060 Sale of fireworks.**

The sale at retail of any fireworks other than "common fireworks" or fireworks authorized to be sold to the public in WAC [212-17-198](#) is prohibited; provided, however, that toy pistols, toy canes, toy guns or other similar devices, in which paper caps containing not more than 0.25 grains of explosive compound for each cap is used, may be sold at any time. The transfer of dangerous fireworks, whether by sale, at wholesale or retail, by gift or by means of conveyance, or the delivery of any fireworks to any person who does not possess a valid permit issued pursuant to LMC [8.68.050](#) at the time of such transfer is prohibited. All sale of fireworks from stands and locations within the City of Lakewood shall be reported as taxable events within the City of Lakewood, and the same shall be indicated on the permit issued pursuant to this chapter, so that sales tax due the City shall be properly routed. [Ord. 84 § 1, 1996.]

#### **8.68.070 Unclassified fireworks.**

The sale, transportation, possession or discharge of fireworks not marked with manufacturer's license number and the Washington State Department of Community Trade and Economic Development's classification, as required by Chapter [70.77](#) RCW or Chapter [212-17](#) WAC, is prohibited. [Ord. 416 § 1, 2006; Ord. 84 § 1, 1996.]

#### **8.68.080 Exceptions.**

The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to "toy sparklers" and "toy caps" containing not more than 0.25 grains of explosive compound for each cap and/or sparkler. It is further provided that nothing contained in this chapter shall be deemed to prohibit the use of any explosive or flammable compound, blasting caps and similar items used for industrial purposes, nor to prohibit the use of any blank cartridges for use by person for bona fide ceremonial services, sporting events or demonstrations. This chapter shall not be construed so as to prohibit the use of torpedoes, flares or fuses by the operators of motor vehicles or railroads, nor by other transportation agencies for signal purposes. This chapter shall also not apply to the assembling, use and display of fireworks, of whatever nature, by any persons engaged in the production of fireworks when such use and display are necessary parts of the production and such persons

possess requisite state permits to do so. This chapter shall also not apply to manufacturers, wholesalers, dealers or jobbers who possess the appropriate licenses and/or permits, from manufacturing or selling any kind of fireworks for direct shipment out of the City or out of the state, nor for manufacturing and/or selling at wholesale, any dangerous fireworks to properly licensed persons holding a valid permit for a public display of fireworks. [Ord. 84 § 1, 1996.]

#### **8.68.090 Violation – Penalty.**

A. Any person violating any provision of this chapter is guilty of a gross misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be punished by a fine in an amount not exceeding \$51,000, or by imprisonment in jail for a term not exceeding 90-364 days, or by both. In the case of a conviction for a violation of this chapter, the City's Fire Marshal or designee may order the fireworks stand closed and may deny approval of a request by the person for a fireworks license for the next year.

B. A person is guilty of a separate offense for each separate and distinct violation of any provisions of this chapter, and a person is guilty of a separate offense for each day during which he/she commits or allows to continue a violation of any provisions of this chapter.

C. Any fireworks which are illegally sold, offered for sale, used, discharged, possessed or transported in violation of the provisions of this chapter or of Chapter 70.77 RCW shall be subject to seizure by any police officer or by the City's Fire Marshal or his designee.

D. For the purposes of this chapter, any person violating LMC 8.68.020(H) in a manner not rising to the level of negligence or recklessness as defined by LMC 8.68.020 shall have committed a civil infraction. The penalty for a violation of LMC 8.68.020(H) shall be punishable by a fine not to exceed \$75.00 in addition to any other costs and assessments provided by law. The City shall have the burden of proving the violation by a preponderance of the evidence. [Ord. 416 § 1, 2006; Ord. 84 § 1, 1996.]

#### **8.68.100 Savings.**

If any portion of LMC 8.68.020 is held invalid, upon the determination of invalidity, LMC 8.68.020 shall revert to that version which existed prior to the amendment set forth in Ordinance 564 (to wit: Ordinance 416 § 1 (part), 2006). [Ord. 564 § 4, 2013.]

Section 2. Severability. If any portion of this Ordinance or its application to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the remainder of the Ordinance or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected.

Section 3. Effective Date. That this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect thirty (30) days after publication of the Ordinance Summary.



ADOPTED by the City Council this 21<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2020.

CITY OF LAKEWOOD

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Don Anderson, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Briana Schumacher, City Clerk

Approved as to Form:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Heidi Ann Wachter, City Attorney

ORDINANCE NO. 742

AN ORDINANCE of the City Council of the City of Lakewood, Washington, amending Chapter 8.68 of the Lakewood Municipal Code relating to fireworks.

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes the potential safety hazards inherent in the use of fireworks; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes that it is in the best interest of the citizens of Lakewood to limit the hours in which fireworks may be discharged; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable to bring the Lakewood Municipal Code in closer alignment with provisions of the RCW 70.77 State Fireworks Law;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD, WASHINGTON, DO ORDAIN as Follows:

Section 1. That Chapter 8.68 of the Lakewood Municipal Code is amended to read as follows:

**8.68.010 Definitions.**

The words and phrases herein used for the purposes of this chapter shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them in this section, except in those instances where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

“~~Common Consumer~~ fireworks” includes only such fireworks that have been defined in RCW [70.77.136](#) ~~or WAC 212-17-035~~.

“Dangerous fireworks” includes all fireworks which do not meet the common fireworks definition under RCW [70.77.136](#) ~~or WAC 212-17-035~~.

“Fireworks stands” includes all displays and locations where fireworks are displayed in connection with sale of fireworks, offered for sale or are stored. Fireworks stands includes temporary fireworks stands as well as permanent structures where fireworks are offered for sale or are stored.

“Person” includes any individual, firm, partnership, joint venture, association, corporation, estate, trust, receiver, syndicate or any other group or combination acting as a unit.

“Public display of fireworks” means an entertainment feature where the public is admitted or

permitted to view the display or discharge of dangerous fireworks.

“Sale at retail” includes any sale or transfer, including contracts or orders for sales or transfers, wherein any person at a fixed location or a place of business sells, transfers or gives fireworks to a consumer or user.

“Sale at wholesale” includes a sale or transfer to a retailer or any other person for resale, and which also includes any sale or transfer of fireworks to a permittee of a public display of fireworks. [Ord. 84 § 1, 1996.]

#### **8.68.020 General provisions.**

Each of the following are hereby declared to be unlawful within the City:

- A. For any person to offer for sale, at retail or wholesale, or to sell, at retail or wholesale, any fireworks without having first obtained a permit or license to do so;
- B. For any person to possess, use or explode any dangerous fireworks or any fireworks other than those listed as being able to be sold to the public in WAC [212-17-198](#), except as specifically provided for public displays in this chapter;
- C. For any person to sell, possess, use or explode any fireworks except as provided in this chapter;
- D. For any person to sell, at retail or wholesale, or offer for sale, at retail or wholesale, any fireworks to be sold within the City except from 12:00 noon on June 28th through 11:00 p.m. on July 4th. Fireworks may not be sold between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 9:00 a.m. from June 28th through July 3rd.
- E. For any person to use, discharge or explode any fireworks in a negligent or reckless manner or during a period other than from 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. ~~on July 4<sup>th</sup> from July 3<sup>rd</sup> through July 5<sup>th</sup> of any year~~ and from 11:00 p.m. December 31st to 1:00 a.m. January 1st.
  - 1. For purposes of this section, “negligent manner” means in a manner which endangers or is likely to endanger persons, animals or property.
  - 2. “Reckless manner” means in a manner with willful and wanton disregard for the safety of persons, animals or property.
- F. For any person to sell, at retail or wholesale, or to offer for sale, at retail or wholesale, fireworks to any person under the age of 16 years of age. It shall be the responsibility of any seller of fireworks to obtain and/or require proof of age of any customer at the time of purchase, which proof requirement may be satisfied by inspecting the customer’s valid Washington State photo driver’s license or valid Washington State photo identification card or the equivalent thereof issued by another state or jurisdiction.
- G. For any person under the age of 16 years of age to possess or to discharge any fireworks within the City without direct supervision of his/her parent or guardian.
- H. In addition, it shall be unlawful for any person to use, discharge or explode any type of firework in any manner on any school grounds or park located within the City of Lakewood or in

any City rights-of-way. [Ord. 564 § 4, 2013; Ord. 416 § 1, 2006; Ord. 84 § 1, 1996.]

**8.68.030 Sales application – Permit.**

An application for a permit to offer for sale, at retail or wholesale, or to sell, at retail or wholesale, any fireworks within the City shall be made at the offices of the Fire Marshal for the City on or before June 10th of the year for which the permit is desired. Such a permit shall be issued only upon the following minimum conditions and requirements:

- A. The application shall be filed with and accompanied by a permit fee of \$100.00.
- B. Approval of the permit by the City Manager or designee, subsequent to an investigation by the City's Fire Marshal or designee.
- C. The application shall have a valid license issued by the state authorizing the holder thereof to engage in the business of sale of fireworks.
- D. If the applicant does not own or have the right to possess a temporary fireworks stand complying with the standards required for temporary fireworks stands, then the applicant shall have as a place for the sale of fireworks a building which is of fireproof construction and with proper firefighting equipment located therein, as approved by the City's Fire Marshal or his designee. In all cases, the placing of fireworks for display in the fireworks stand or place of sale shall be in such a manner as to be beyond the reach of customers.
- E. The applicant shall procure and maintain a policy or policies of public liability and property damage insurance with a company or companies acceptable to the City Attorney in the following amounts: \$100,000 or more for injuries to any one person in any one accident or occurrence; \$200,000 or more for injuries to two or more persons in any one act or occurrence; \$50,000 or more for damage to property in any one accident or occurrence. The City shall be named as an additional insured in each policy providing coverage in connection with the manufacture, importation, exportation, regulation, possession, sale, use and/or discharge of fireworks.
- F. The permittee's location or place business, if a temporary fireworks stand, shall be only in those areas or zones within the City which have been approved by the Fire Marshal of the City or designee. The permittee's location or place of business, if the fireworks stand or display is located within a permanent structure, shall be only in those zones within the City in which commercial businesses may be located.
- G. The applicant shall post with the City Clerk a performance bond or cash bond in the amount of not less than \$50.00, subject to the following conditions: The deposit shall be returned to the applicant only if the applicant promptly removes the temporary fireworks stand and cleans the area of its location to the satisfaction of the Fire Marshal or his designee, or, in the case of a fireworks stand being located within a permanent structure, if the applicant promptly cleans the area of its location to the satisfaction of the Fire Marshall or his designee. In the event that the applicant fails to do so, the performance bond or cash deposit shall be forfeited to the City. In no event shall the applicant be entitled to the return of the performance bond or the cash deposited if he/she fails to complete the above described work by July 15th of any year. [Ord. 84 § 1, 1996.]

**8.68.040 Fireworks stands.**

Fireworks stands shall conform to the requirements of Chapter [212-17](#) WAC and the following minimum standards, conditions and requirements:

- A. All fireworks stands shall be inspected and approved by the City's Fire Marshal or designee. Temporary fireworks stands need not comply with all of the provisions of the City's Building Code; provided, however, that all such temporary fireworks stands shall be erected under the supervision of the City's Fire Marshal or designee, or in accordance with the specified standards of the City's Fire Marshal or designee, including but not limited to the requirement that all temporary fireworks stands be constructed in a safe manner for both persons selling fireworks at the temporary fireworks stand and for potential customers of the temporary fireworks stand. In the event any fireworks stand is wired for and connected to electric power, then the wiring shall be approved by the City's Fire Marshal or the Electrical Inspector or their designee to ensure compliance with Article 502-2(a), Class II, Div. I of the N.E.C. or successor regulations.
- B. No temporary fireworks stand shall be located within 50 feet of any other building or structure constructed entirely or partially of combustible materials or with unprotected openings, nor within 20 feet of any building or structure constructed entirely of noncombustible materials; nor within 100 feet of any gas station, oil storage tank or premises where flammable liquids are kept or stored.
- C. Each fireworks stand must have at least two exits; which shall be unobstructed at all times.
- D. Each fireworks stand shall have in readily accessible places two or more extinguishers approved by the City's Fire Marshal or designee, and a two-gallon pail of water.
- E. All weeds, grass and combustible materials shall be cleared from the location of a fireworks stand and the surrounding area, a distance of not less than 20 feet measured from the exterior walls on each side of the fireworks stand.
- F. No smoking shall be permitted in or near a fireworks stand and fireworks stands shall be posted with "No Smoking" signs with letters at least two inches in height, in conspicuous places on all four sides of the fireworks stand. Each temporary fireworks stand or fireworks display within a permanent structure where fireworks are displayed and offered for sale shall have at least one adult in attendance at all times during which fireworks are available for sale.
- G. All unsold stock and accompanying litter shall be removed from the vicinity of the fireworks stand by 12:00 noon on July 5th of any year, and shall be stored and/or disposed of as provided in Chapter [212-17](#) WAC.
- H. There shall be no discharging or igniting of fireworks within 100 feet of any fireworks stand.
- I. No fireworks stand shall be located within 10 feet of a public sidewalk or street.
- J. There shall be no sleeping in any fireworks stands, nor within any structure where fireworks are stored.
- K. There shall be no matches, lighters, pressurized or nonpressurized propane, kerosene, gas, fuel oil lanterns, or similar devices, or other open flame devices stored, nor offered for sale in any fireworks stand, nor within any structure where fireworks are stored.

In the event that there are any conflicts between the provisions hereof and the provisions of

Chapter [212-17](#) WAC, the more restrictive of the two shall control. [Ord. 84 § 1, 1996.]

#### **8.68.050 Public displays of fireworks.**

A. *Application for Permits for Public Displays of Fireworks.* Any person desiring to give or make a display of fireworks within the City shall, not less than 10 days in advance of the proposed display, make an application for a permit to operate the public display, in writing, to the City Manager or designee. The application shall set forth the following information:

1. The name of the organization sponsoring the display, together with the names and addresses of persons actually in charge of the firing/presentation of the display;
2. The date and time of day at which the display is to be held;
3. The exact location planned for the display;
4. A description setting forth the age and experience of the persons who are to do the actual discharging of the fireworks, and copies of their public display permit issued pursuant to RCW [70.77.280](#) or comparable applicable statute;
5. The number, type and description of fireworks to be discharged;
6. The manner and place of storage of such fireworks prior to the display; and
7. A diagram of the grounds on which the display is to be held showing the point at which the fireworks are to be discharged, the location of all buildings, highways and other lines of transit or communication as well as telephone, electric and other utility lines and poles and any other structures, facilities or objects which could present overhead obstructions, located within 500 feet of the point of discharge.

B. *Fee for Public Display Permit.* There shall be no permit fee for a public display permit other than the license required by the State Fire Marshal.

C. *Investigation on Site – Certificate of Compliance by City’s Fire Marshal – Notice of Approval by City’s Fire Marshal or Designee.* Upon receipt of such application, at least 20 days in advance of the date set for the display, the City’s Fire Marshal or designee shall make an investigation of the site of the proposed display for the purpose of determining whether the provisions of these regulations are complied with in the case of the particular display. If the City’s Fire Marshal or designee is satisfied that the display is lawful and there has or will be full compliance with all applicable laws, state and local, then the City’s Fire Marshal or designee shall issue a written recommendation for or against the permit which shall be kept on file in the City’s Fire Marshal’s or designee’s office and available for review by authorized reviewing agencies. If the City’s Fire Marshal or designee finds that the permit applicant has complied with all applicable laws, then the City’s Fire Marshal or designee may issue a certificate of compliance stating an endorsement of the display as being in conformance with all applicable laws and with these regulations. For any scheduled public display, applicants must submit such information as is deemed appropriate by the City’s law enforcement agency to ensure that adequate traffic control and crowd protection policing and any other measures necessary or appropriate for public safety have been arranged either through private security agencies or through a contract with a law enforcement agency and/or with commissioned law enforcement

officers of the agency. A written notice that the applicant has complied with these requirements shall be issued by the City's Police Chief before a public display permit is issued; provided, that if the applicant should contract for traffic control and crowd protection policing with the City, for use of its law enforcement officers, in no event shall the sum agreed upon as payment for such policing be less than the actual expenses incurred by the City for providing such services. Such consideration shall be calculated in terms of personnel resources at the hourly rate for overtime under current collective bargaining agreements and/or rates of pay, plus that percentage which is paid by the public agency for fringe benefits, whichever applies, and all such sums paid under the contract shall be paid in accordance with procedures specified by the City's Fire Marshal.

D. Every public display of fireworks shall be handled by at least two competent operators approved by the City's Fire Marshal or designee, and every public display of fireworks shall be of such character, and so located, discharged or fired that, in the opinion of the City's Fire Marshal or designee, after proper investigation, it would not constitute a hazard to property or endanger any person.

E. A state pyrotechnics license is required for at least one operator at each public display of fireworks. The state licensed operator shall be the person who actually discharges or ignites the fireworks.

F. A bond or certificate of insurance must be furnished to the City Manager or designee before a permit is issued. The bond shall be in the amount of \$1,000,000 and shall be conditioned upon the applicant's payment of all damages to persons and property resulting from or caused by any public display of fireworks, or by any negligence on the part of the applicant or its agents, servants, employees or subcontractors in the presentation of the display. The certificate of insurance shall evidence a comprehensive general liability (including automobile coverage) insurance policy providing limits of \$1,000,000 combined single limit per occurrence and annual aggregate, naming the City of Lakewood as an additional insured. Any such bond or insurance policy must be approved by the City Attorney.

G. A cash deposit in the amount of \$500.00 must be posted with the City Manager or designee at least 30 days in advance of the public display date to provide for the costs of site cleanup. The deposit shall be forfeited to the City if the operator fails to perform such cleanup within six days of the public display. If the operator properly performs the cleanup, the deposit shall be returned to the operator.

H. *Storage.*

1. As soon as the fireworks have been delivered to the display site, they shall be attended and shall remain dry.
2. All shells shall be inspected upon delivery to the display site by the display operator. Any shells having tears, leaks, broken fuses or showing signs of having been wet shall be set aside and shall not be fired. After the display, any such shells shall be either returned to the supplier or destroyed according to the supplier's instructions.
3. All fireworks at the firing site must be stored in ready boxes (substantially constructed wood magazines). During the display, magazines must be 25 feet upwind (in relation to the firing item)



from the nearest mortar. Magazine lids must be open in the opposite direction of the firing. All ready boxes are to be protected by a flameproof water repellent canvas cover until emptied.

4. The shell storage area shall be located at a minimum distance of not less than 25 feet from the discharge site.

5. During the display, shells shall be stored upwind from the discharge site. If the winds shift during the display, the shell storage area shall be relocated to be upwind from the discharge site.

6. There shall be at least two 2A-rated fire extinguishers (two and one-half gallons water), UL approved kept as widely separated as possible within the actual area where the discharging will occur.

*I. Preparation of Site Crowd Control.*

1. All dry grass, weeds and other combustible waste within 50 feet of the firing site shall be removed.

2. The site shall be located so that the trajectory of shells shall not come within 50 feet of any overhead object including but not limited to aboveground telephone, telegraph or electric lines, trees or wooded areas.

3. Discharged fireworks shall not come within 100 feet of any tent or canvas shelter.

4. The firing and storage site shall be located not less than 200 feet from any building, public highway or railroad or other means of travel.

5. No boats shall be allowed within 200 feet of the firing or storage site.

6. The operators shall provide sufficient personnel to assure that no unauthorized persons are allowed within 200 feet of the firing and storage site. This requirement shall be in effect from one-half hour prior to the arrival of fireworks until the fireworks debris, equipment and fireworks have been removed from the site.

7. Spectators shall be restrained behind lines or barriers at least 200 feet from the firing and storage locations.

*J. Installation of Mortars.*

1. Mortars shall be inspected by the operators for dents, bent ends, and cracked or broken plugs prior to ground placement. Mortars found to be defective in any way shall not be used. Any scale on the inside surface of the mortars shall be removed.

2. Mortars shall be positioned so that the shells are carried away from spectators and buildings. When fired over water, mortars shall be installed at an angle of not less than 10 degrees, pointed towards the water.

3. Mortars shall be either buried securely into the ground to a depth of two-thirds to three-fourths of their length or fastened securely in mortar boxes or drums. In soft ground, heavy timber or rock slabs shall be placed beneath the mortars to prevent their sinking or being driven into the ground during firing.

4. In damp ground, a weather-resistant bag should be placed under the bottom of the mortar prior to placement in the ground to protect the mortar against moisture.

5. Weather-resistant bags shall be placed over the open end of the mortar in damp weather to keep moisture from accumulating inside the surface of the mortar.

K. *Operation of the Display.*

1. The operators shall provide fire protection at the site as required by the City's Fire Marshal or designee.
2. Only permitted fireworks are authorized for use.
3. When display is fired from a barge or vessel, a secured area shall be established around the barge or vessel to prevent boats from entering the fallout area. No boats shall be allowed within 200 feet of the firing or storage site. A boat shall be on standby to remove personnel from the barge and otherwise respond in the case of an emergency. Additional fire extinguishers, rated 2A minimum, shall be on the barge and so spaced that an extinguisher shall be available at all times.
4. If, in the opinion of the City's Fire Marshal or designee or authorized representative, lack of crowd control should pose a danger, the display shall be immediately discontinued until such time as the situation is corrected.
5. If at any time high winds or unusually wet weather prevail such that in the opinion of the City's Fire Marshal or designee or authorized representative of the display operators, a definite fire danger exists, the public display shall be discontinued or postponed until weather conditions improve so as to permit safe discharge of fireworks.
6. Light snow or mist need not cause cancellation of the display; however, all materials used in the display shall be protected from the weather until immediately prior to use.
7. Display operators and assistants shall use only flashlights or approved electrical lighting for artificial illumination.
8. No smoking or open flames shall be allowed within 50 feet of the firing or storage area so long as shells are present. Signs to this effect shall be conspicuously posted.
9. The first shell fired shall be carefully observed to determine that its trajectory will carry it into the intended firing range and that the shell functions are over and any debris falls into the planned landing area.
10. Mortars shall be re-angled or reset if necessary at any time during the display to properly adjust the trajectory or landing area.
11. When a shell fails to ignite in the mortar, the mortar shall not be touched for a minimum of five minutes. After five minutes it shall be carefully flooded with water. Immediately following the display, the mortar shall be emptied into a bucket of water. The supplier shall be contacted as soon as possible for proper disposal instructions.
12. Operators shall not attempt to repair a damaged shell nor shall they attempt to dismantle a dry shell. In all such cases, the supplier shall be contacted as soon as possible for proper disposal instructions.
13. Operators shall not dry a wet shell, nor shall they lance or pot a wet shell for reuse.
14. The entire firing range shall be inspected immediately following the display to locate any defective shells. Any such shells found shall be immediately doused with water before handling. The shells shall be placed in a bucket of water. The supplier shall then be contacted as soon as possible for proper disposal instructions.
15. When fireworks are displayed in darkness, the sponsor shall ensure that the firing range is

inspected early the following morning.

16. Any fireworks remaining unfired after the display shall be immediately disposed of or removed from the City in a safe manner.

17. The debris from discharged fireworks shall be disposed of in a proper manner.

18. The operator shall further comply with the requirements of Chapter [212-17](#) WAC. In the event that the requirements of Chapter [212-17](#) WAC are inconsistent or in conflict with the provisions hereof, the more restrictive of the two shall control.

L. The denial by the City's Fire Marshal or designee of a permit for the public display of fireworks may be appealed to the City Council. If no such appeal is made within 60 days, the denial is final. [Ord. 416 § 1, 2006; Ord. 84 § 1, 1996.]

#### **8.68.060 Sale of fireworks.**

The sale at retail of any fireworks other than "common fireworks" or fireworks authorized to be sold to the public in WAC [212-17-198](#) is prohibited; provided, however, that toy pistols, toy canes, toy guns or other similar devices, in which paper caps containing not more than 0.25 grains of explosive compound for each cap is used, may be sold at any time. The transfer of dangerous fireworks, whether by sale, at wholesale or retail, by gift or by means of conveyance, or the delivery of any fireworks to any person who does not possess a valid permit issued pursuant to LMC [8.68.050](#) at the time of such transfer is prohibited. All sale of fireworks from stands and locations within the City of Lakewood shall be reported as taxable events within the City of Lakewood, and the same shall be indicated on the permit issued pursuant to this chapter, so that sales tax due the City shall be properly routed. [Ord. 84 § 1, 1996.]

#### **8.68.070 Unclassified fireworks.**

The sale, transportation, possession or discharge of fireworks not marked with manufacturer's license number and the Washington State Department of Community Trade and Economic Development's classification, as required by Chapter [70.77](#) RCW or Chapter [212-17](#) WAC, is prohibited. [Ord. 416 § 1, 2006; Ord. 84 § 1, 1996.]

#### **8.68.080 Exceptions.**

The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to "toy sparklers" and "toy caps" containing not more than 0.25 grains of explosive compound for each cap and/or sparkler. It is further provided that nothing contained in this chapter shall be deemed to prohibit the use of any explosive or flammable compound, blasting caps and similar items used for industrial purposes, nor to prohibit the use of any blank cartridges for use by person for bona fide ceremonial services, sporting events or demonstrations. This chapter shall not be construed so as to prohibit the use of torpedoes, flares or fuses by the operators of motor vehicles or railroads, nor by other transportation agencies for signal purposes. This chapter shall also not apply to the assembling, use and display of fireworks, of whatever nature, by any persons engaged in the production of fireworks when such use and display are necessary parts of the production and such persons

possess requisite state permits to do so. This chapter shall also not apply to manufacturers, wholesalers, dealers or jobbers who possess the appropriate licenses and/or permits, from manufacturing or selling any kind of fireworks for direct shipment out of the City or out of the state, nor for manufacturing and/or selling at wholesale, any dangerous fireworks to properly licensed persons holding a valid permit for a public display of fireworks. [Ord. 84 § 1, 1996.]

#### **8.68.090 Violation – Penalty.**

A. Any person violating any provision of this chapter is guilty of a gross misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be punished by a fine in an amount not exceeding \$51,000, or by imprisonment in jail for a term not exceeding 90-364 days, or by both. In the case of a conviction for a violation of this chapter, the City's Fire Marshal or designee may order the fireworks stand closed and may deny approval of a request by the person for a fireworks license for the next year.

B. A person is guilty of a separate offense for each separate and distinct violation of any provisions of this chapter, and a person is guilty of a separate offense for each day during which he/she commits or allows to continue a violation of any provisions of this chapter.

C. Any fireworks which are illegally sold, offered for sale, used, discharged, possessed or transported in violation of the provisions of this chapter or of Chapter 70.77 RCW shall be subject to seizure by any police officer or by the City's Fire Marshal or his designee.

D. For the purposes of this chapter, any person violating LMC 8.68.020(H) in a manner not rising to the level of negligence or recklessness as defined by LMC 8.68.020 shall have committed a civil infraction. The penalty for a violation of LMC 8.68.020(H) shall be punishable by a fine not to exceed \$75.00 in addition to any other costs and assessments provided by law. The City shall have the burden of proving the violation by a preponderance of the evidence. [Ord. 416 § 1, 2006; Ord. 84 § 1, 1996.]

#### **8.68.100 Savings.**

If any portion of LMC 8.68.020 is held invalid, upon the determination of invalidity, LMC 8.68.020 shall revert to that version which existed prior to the amendment set forth in Ordinance 564 (to wit: Ordinance 416 § 1 (part), 2006). [Ord. 564 § 4, 2013.]

Section 2. Severability. If any portion of this Ordinance or its application to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the remainder of the Ordinance or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected.

Section 3. Effective Date. That this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect thirty (30) days after publication of the Ordinance Summary.

ADOPTED by the City Council this 21<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2020.

CITY OF LAKEWOOD

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Don Anderson, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Briana Schumacher, City Clerk

Approved as to Form:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Heidi Ann Wachter, City Attorney

Proposed amendatory language:

Move that the proposed ordinance (identify A/full ban or B/restricted dates) be amended to prohibit any and all sales of fireworks and remove any language regulating such illegal sales:

**8.68.020        General provisions.**

Each of the following are hereby declared to be unlawful within the City:

A. For any person to offer for sale, at retail or wholesale, or to sell, at retail or wholesale, any fireworks ~~without having first obtained a permit or license to do so;~~

~~D. For any person to sell, at retail or wholesale, or offer for sale, at retail or wholesale, any fireworks to be sold within the City except from 12:00 noon on June 28<sup>th</sup> through 11:00 p.m. on July 4th. Fireworks may not be sold between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 9:00 a.m. from June 28th through July 3rd.~~

~~F. For any person to sell, at retail or wholesale, or to offer for sale, at retail or wholesale, fireworks to any person under the age of 16 years of age. It shall be the responsibility of any seller of fireworks to obtain and/or require proof of age of any customer at the time of purchase, which proof requirement may be satisfied by inspecting the customer's valid Washington State photo driver's license or valid Washington State photo identification card or the equivalent thereof issued by another state or jurisdiction.~~

~~G. For any person under the age of 16 years of age to possess or to discharge any fireworks within the City without direct supervision of his/her parent or guardian.~~

~~H. In addition, it shall be unlawful for any person to use, discharge or explode any type of firework in any manner on any school grounds or park located within the City of Lakewood or in any City rights of way. [Ord. 564 § 4, 2013; Ord. 416 § 1, 2006; Ord. 84 § 1, 1996.]~~

**~~8.68.030        Sales application — Permit.~~**

~~An application for a permit to offer for sale, at retail or wholesale, or to sell, at retail or wholesale, any fireworks within the City shall be made at the offices of the Fire Marshal for the City on or before June 10th of the year for which the permit is desired. Such a permit shall be issued only upon the following minimum conditions and requirements:~~

~~A. The application shall be filed with and accompanied by a permit fee of \$100.00.~~

~~B. Approval of the permit by the City Manager or designee, subsequent to an investigation by the City's Fire Marshal or designee.~~

~~C. The application shall have a valid license issued by the state authorizing the holder thereof to engage in the business of sale of fireworks.~~

~~D. If the applicant does not own or have the right to possess a temporary fireworks stand complying with the standards required for temporary fireworks stands, then the applicant shall have as a place for the sale of fireworks a building which is of fireproof construction and with proper firefighting equipment located therein, as approved by the City's Fire Marshal or his designee. In all cases, the placing of fireworks for display in the fireworks stand or place of sale shall be in such a manner as to be beyond the reach of customers.~~

~~E. The applicant shall procure and maintain a policy or policies of public liability and property damage insurance with a company or companies acceptable to the City Attorney in the following amounts: \$100,000 or more for injuries to any one person in any one accident or occurrence; \$200,000 or more for injuries to two or more persons in any one act or occurrence; \$50,000 or more for damage to property in any one accident or occurrence. The City shall be named as an additional insured in each policy providing coverage in connection with the manufacture, importation, exportation, regulation, possession, sale, use and/or discharge of fireworks.~~

~~F. The permittee's location or place business, if a temporary fireworks stand, shall be only in those areas or zones within the City which have been approved by the Fire Marshal of the City or designee. The permittee's location or place of business, if the fireworks stand or display is located within a permanent structure, shall be only in those zones within the City in which commercial businesses may be located.~~

~~G. The applicant shall post with the City Clerk a performance bond or cash bond in the amount of not less than \$50.00, subject to the following conditions: The deposit shall be returned to the applicant only if the applicant promptly removes the temporary fireworks stand and cleans the area of its location to the satisfaction of the Fire Marshal or his designee, or, in the case of a fireworks stand being located within a permanent structure, if the applicant promptly cleans the area of its location to the satisfaction of the Fire Marshall or his designee. In the event that the applicant fails to do so, the performance bond or cash deposit shall be forfeited to the City. In no event shall the applicant be entitled to the return of the performance bond or the cash deposited if he/she fails to complete the above described work by July 15th of any year. [Ord. 84 § 1, 1996.]~~

#### **~~8.68.040 — Fireworks stands.~~**

~~Fireworks stands shall conform to the requirements of Chapter 212-17 WAC and the following~~

minimum standards, conditions and requirements:

~~A. All fireworks stands shall be inspected and approved by the City's Fire Marshal or designee. Temporary fireworks stands need not comply with all of the provisions of the City's Building Code; provided, however, that all such temporary fireworks stands shall be erected under the supervision of the City's Fire Marshal or designee, or in accordance with the specified standards of the City's Fire Marshal or designee, including but not limited to the requirement that all temporary fireworks stands be constructed in a safe manner for both persons selling fireworks at the temporary fireworks stand and for potential customers of the temporary fireworks stand. In the event any fireworks stand is wired for and connected to electric power, then the wiring shall be approved by the City's Fire Marshal or the Electrical Inspector or their designee to ensure compliance with Article 502-2(a), Class II, Div. I of the N.E.C. or successor regulations.~~

~~B. No temporary fireworks stand shall be located within 50 feet of any other building or structure constructed entirely or partially of combustible materials or with unprotected openings, nor within 20 feet of any building or structure constructed entirely of noncombustible materials; nor within 100 feet of any gas station, oil storage tank or premises where flammable liquids are kept or stored.~~

~~C. Each fireworks stand must have at least two exits; which shall be unobstructed at all times.~~

~~D. Each fireworks stand shall have in readily accessible places two or more extinguishers approved by the City's Fire Marshal or designee, and a two-gallon pail of water.~~

~~E. All weeds, grass and combustible materials shall be cleared from the location of a fireworks stand and the surrounding area, a distance of not less than 20 feet measured from the exterior walls on each side of the fireworks stand.~~

~~F. No smoking shall be permitted in or near a fireworks stand and fireworks stands shall be posted with "No Smoking" signs with letters at least two inches in height, in conspicuous places on all four sides of the fireworks stand. Each temporary fireworks stand or fireworks display within a permanent structure where fireworks are displayed and offered for sale shall have at least one adult in attendance at all times during which fireworks are available for sale.~~

~~G. All unsold stock and accompanying litter shall be removed from the vicinity of the fireworks stand by 12:00 noon on July 5th of any year, and shall be stored and/or disposed of as provided in Chapter 212-17 WAC.~~

~~H. There shall be no discharging or igniting of fireworks within 100 feet of any fireworks stand.~~

~~I. No fireworks stand shall be located within 10 feet of a public sidewalk or street.~~

~~J. There shall be no sleeping in any fireworks stands, nor within any structure where fireworks~~



~~are stored.~~

~~K. There shall be no matches, lighters, pressurized or nonpressurized propane, kerosene, gas, fuel oil lanterns, or similar devices, or other open flame devices stored, nor offered for sale in any fireworks stand, nor within any structure where fireworks are stored.~~

~~In the event that there are any conflicts between the provisions hereof and the provisions of Chapter 212-17 WAC, the more restrictive of the two shall control. [Ord. 84 § 1, 1996.]~~

#### ~~**8.68.060 — Sale of fireworks.**~~

~~The sale at retail of any fireworks other than “common fireworks” or fireworks authorized to be sold to the public in WAC 212-17-198 is prohibited; provided, however, that toy pistols, toy canes, toy guns or other similar devices, in which paper caps containing not more than 0.25 grains of explosive compound for each cap is used, may be sold at any time. The transfer of dangerous fireworks, whether by sale, at wholesale or retail, by gift or by means of conveyance, or the delivery of any fireworks to any person who does not possess a valid permit issued pursuant to LMC 8.68.050 at the time of such transfer is prohibited. All sale of fireworks from stands and locations within the City of Lakewood shall be reported as taxable events within the City of Lakewood, and the same shall be indicated on the permit issued pursuant to this chapter, so that sales tax due the City shall be properly routed. [Ord. 84 § 1, 1996.]~~

**From:** [Linda Devereaux](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks Ban  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 24, 2020 8:00:18 AM

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- helpdesk@cityoflakewood.us ext. 4357

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I strongly support the banning of fireworks on the 3rd and 5th of July.

Linda Devereaux  
4 Ponce de Leon Creek SW  
Lakewood WA 98499

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [mark.tarrant](#)  
**To:** [Briana.Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 24, 2020 11:16:19 AM

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Good morning my question what happened to life liberty and the pursuit of happiness, as well as the tradition of fireworks and bbq for Fourth of July. Obviously there should be an age limit on who can purchase fireworks but you shouldn't ban them completely.

God bless,

SGT Tarrant

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** [Diane Hubbell](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 25, 2020 12:09:57 PM

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*- helpdesk@cityoflakewood.us ext. 4357*

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Instead of eliminating fireworks on the 3rd and the 5th, I **support banning the public's use of fireworks.** There is no rhyme or reason to allow the public to use explosives once a year to destroy personal property and start fires. I am sure West Pierce Fire Department can find other things to do with their time. Everyone that I know dreads the 4th of July. It should be a time of family gatherings not the sound of war and bombs and you have to stay home to protect your property. Steilacoom doesn't allow fireworks, neither should Lakewood!

Diane

March 24, 2020  
10121-120th St. SW  
Lakewood, WA 98498  
253.582.6417

City Clerk  
6000 Main St. SW  
Lakewood, WA 98498


I saw this information on the Suburban Times Newsletter and was pleased you are dealing with this. I wrote to Lakewood City Hall in the past but never received a response.

Lived here since 1968, in house 47yrs. this June.

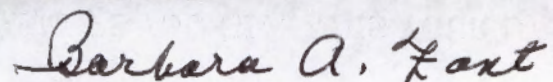
There are SO MANY reasons to stop Fireworks in Lakewood.

- \* Just ask the Fire Departments
- \* Probably paying for extra employees to be on the alert.
- \* More EMT to be alerted.
- \* Houses have been burned and/or damaged.
- \* Kids/people have been burned, injured, etc. Ask Emergency records
- \* The NOISE is horrible. Hard on people BUT TERRIBLE ON ANIMALS.
- \* The SMOKE is HORRIBLE. It is a carcinogen damaging to the lungs!!!
- \* ALSO, I believe Tacoma, Steilacoom have discontinued SO OF COURSE people step across a street and shoot here. Making for more to be concerned about!!

If cities want to show Fireworks Displays in a Safe area with PRIOR APPROVAL okay but NO MORE INDIVIDUAL SHOOTING.

 I HOPE YOU GIVE THIS YOUR UTMOST CONSIDERATION.

THANK YOU.

  
Barbara A. Fant

FireworksLakewood

**From:** [Joseph G. Boyle](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Comments: Code Amendment to eliminate fireworks  
**Date:** Friday, March 27, 2020 12:02:17 PM

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To Whom It May Concern:

While I understand the argument that igniting explosive fireworks is good clean fun for Americans who celebrate the Declaration of Independence, it is a fact that many breathe our Lakewood air who lack the common-sense, courtesy, and intelligence necessary to deal with fireworks in a safe, sane and legal manner.

Last year a neighbor, acting like a goofball, came close to setting my property on fire when his party shot fireworks from the middle of a city street over our 7' fence into our fir trees with two large rockets landing on my roof. Fireworks also fell into my neighbors' property. Had this inconsiderate neighbor caught my fir trees or other abundant vegetation on fire, my home and its occupants, which are surrounded by trees and vegetation, could have burned to the ground.

Fortunately, I no longer have a combustible shake roof, but rather a standing seam metal roof. The burning fireworks created a large stain on my metal roof as it burned itself out on top of my house with us sleeping inside late at night.

Anyone of us, including several neighbors, could have been injured or killed with the burning fireworks falling from the

sky. We were held prisoners in our own homes daring not to venture outside, except quick trips to check for fire.

The offending neighbor had two guests / relatives attending his dangerous fireworks party. One was a policeman (Not Lakewood Police). The other was a fireman.

When I confronted my neighbor regarding my safety concerns, he bragged about having police and fire on the scene, and thus stated he was doing nothing illegal. He refused to stop.

Because there are ignorant, dangerous idiots mixed in with our general population, Lakewood City Council needs to do the right thing, the intelligent thing, to protect our community. Private fireworks needs to be outlawed in our city every single day of the year.

When these arson happy trouble makers attacked my house, 911-Dispatch reported to me that Lakewood Police did not have the staffing to respond to fireworks complaints. That fact forces the possibility; private citizens will arm themselves to confront stupidity to protect lives and property—what a recipe for disaster.

If our city and our police are not able or willing to solve the fireworks problem, then when under attack, some citizens may choose to fire back using illegal fireworks of their own aimed directed at the offender's home, trees, or the offender. There is a distinct possibility a victim may choose to up the ante with superior firepower. Superior firepower means the suspect brought fireworks to a gunfight.



One might quickly respond with the the thought that the victim neighbor should not stoop to the suspect's behavior to avoid becoming just as bad as the suspect. The counter to that is, Why not? The victim has to protect his family and property and the police are not going to show up for a fireworks complaint anyway.

When you think about it, this should be the responsibility of the city and our police, not untrained citizens.

In the likely event, Lakewood does not make fireworks illegal all year long then the city should fund extra police patrols to ticket offenders along with confiscating violator's fireworks for unlawful and dangerous fireworks behavior.

While my opinions are strong, my statements are based on what I saw and learned during my 25 years as a police officer going to dispatched calls just like this.

A superior way to solve a problem is to avoid the problem in the first place.

Lakewood City Council, please have the courage to do the right thing. Outlaw private fireworks in the City of Lakewood.

Joe Boyle

Joseph G. Boyle  
11537 Clovercrest Drive SW  
Lakewood, WA 98499

T: 253-582-0066

E: [jgb263@comcast.net](mailto:jgb263@comcast.net)

**From:** [Bob Warfield](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Cc:** [tgaldabini@comcast.net](#); [dcp@oz.net](#); [a59olsen@hotmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** My two cents - Muni code to Ban Fireworks  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 31, 2020 6:43:57 AM

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*- helpdesk@cityoflakewood.us ext. 4357*

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Hi Briana,

From the old grouch with best wishes:

31 March 2020

To City Council, City of Lakewood, WA

I support favorable consideration to ban sale and use of fireworks, subject to some practical licensing requirement for public display, within the jurisdiction of City of Lakewood.

Following Joe Boyle's letter to community related The Suburban Times, 31 March 2020) I join advocacy for a municipal ban. With numerous public displays available to muster celebration amid our increasingly urban habitat, it absolutely makes sense to get serious about applied restrictions.

Positive benefits abound: no more dueling displays across Lake Steilacoom, cringing elderly steeling themselves through three days of mayhem, missing fingers, embarrassingly explained in later years, ridiculous clutters of debris abandoned in neighborhood rights of way over scorched asphalt.

One may acknowledge the fun of fireworks from youthful days of rural climes. But density's demands strongly suggest it's time to put popular, too often reckless, fireworks on the shelf wit BB guns and slingshots.

Respectfully,

Bob Warfield

143 Candlewyck Drive, W  
Lakewood, WA 98499-8113  
TEL: 253-588-5880  
Email: [foxxlair@aol.com](mailto:foxxlair@aol.com)

**From:** [Phil Coates](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks Ban  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 31, 2020 8:34:58 AM

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- [helpdesk@cityoflakewood.us](mailto:helpdesk@cityoflakewood.us) ext. 4357

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I support an ordinance to Outlaw private fireworks in the City of Lakewood.

--

Take care

Phil Coates  
7702 63rd Ave West

*"As for me and my house we will serve the Lord."* Joshua 24:15

Hello Briana:

I live on Fox Island. I used to live in Lakewood for sixteen years. I really support banning Fireworks in Lakewood as well as Fox Island. I am an asthmatic. I have to leave the United States every year because of the pollution.

Priscilla Spiker

Email: [smugglercove@comcast.net](mailto:smugglercove@comcast.net)

Phone: 253.549.2212

**From:** [JAMES R](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks in Lakewood  
**Date:** Thursday, April 2, 2020 4:47:35 PM

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My wife and I are long time residents of Lakewood. We have endured mostly illegal fireworks for years. It is past time to stop!  
Lakewood should ban private sale and use of fireworks now!

Jim and Judy Joy  
jjjoy6@comcast.net

Sent from Xfinity Connect Application





April 2, 2020

The Honorable Don Anderson  
Mayor of Lakewood

Via e-mail: [DAnderson@cityoflakewood.us](mailto:DAnderson@cityoflakewood.us)

Dear Mayor Anderson,

I'm writing on behalf of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) and our more than 6.5 million members and supporters worldwide, including many thousands across Washington, in response to the proposed code amendments that would ban the discharge of fireworks on July 3 and 5. *We strongly urge you to adopt these fireworks limitations and also consider banning fireworks on July 4 in order to protect all of Lakewood's residents.*

Traditional fireworks sound like an all-out war—not only to those suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder but also to dogs, cats, and wildlife—and their use has devastating consequences. Terrified dogs climb or dig their way out of fenced-in yards as they frantically try to escape the chaos, resulting in increased stray-animal intakes at shelters across the nation, which further strains community resources. Many arrive with bloody paws or broken bones, some are never reunited with their families, and others are doomed to a worse fate.

Fireworks produce plumes of smoke laden with particles that are harmful to the respiratory systems of humans and other animals. Birds caught in or near fireworks displays easily choke on the toxic residue. The California Coastal Commission banned the city of Gualala's display when, following a 2006 show, seabirds fled their nests, leaving their chicks vulnerable to predators. Most birds cannot see well in the dark, so this type of disruption can cause them to become injured if they inadvertently crash into power lines, cars, buildings, trees, or each other. In one case, 5,000 birds died on a New Year's Eve in Arkansas after a fireworks display caused them to take flight and crash into objects such as houses and cars.

Such tragedies are not limited to animals: Many humans have been injured in fireworks accidents, and the displays can exacerbate asthma and other respiratory problems. Veterans and others suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder are also sensitive to and can be deeply disturbed by the noise of the explosives and the smell of the gunpowder. And on average, 180 people go to emergency rooms daily with fireworks-related injuries for an entire month around July 4.

We hope you'll enact the proposed restrictions and perhaps consider extending them even further by also including a ban on igniting fireworks on July 4. Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to hearing from you.

Very truly yours,

Ingrid E. Newkirk  
President

PEOPLE FOR  
THE ETHICAL  
TREATMENT  
OF ANIMALS

Washington, D.C.

1536 16th St. N.W.  
Washington, DC 20036  
202-483-PETA

Los Angeles

2154 W. Sunset Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90026  
323-644-PETA

Norfolk

501 Front St.  
Norfolk, VA 23510  
757-622-PETA

Oakland

554 Grand Ave.  
Oakland, CA 94610  
510-763-PETA

Info@peta.org

PETA.org

Affiliates:

- PETA Asia
- PETA India
- PETA France
- PETA Australia
- PETA Germany
- PETA Netherlands
- PETA Foundation (UK)

**From:** [Alejandro Sanchez Perez](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Lakewood City Council reviews fireworks regulations  
**Date:** Friday, May 22, 2020 5:24:43 PM

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Greetings Lakewood City Council,

I would love to start with that I am very patriotic and enjoying my retirement after 20 years of Military Service with continued employment in the Federal Government, servicing our Veterans with the Department of Veterans Affairs.

I love celebrating the Fourth of July, but hate hearing the fireworks for weeks and weeks.

I had previously commented on similar inquiry and understand that those booths provide fundraising opportunities for groups, but are also a danger to the groups from theft and larceny. The City Steilacoom does not have sale of Fireworks and put on a show in the Puget Sound.

Why not do something in Steilacoom Park and make it a gathering with booths, music and possibly a fair with rides similar to the JBLM celebration; which would attract more people and provide a positive income for the city and it local business. The Local Rotary club with the support of local business people and the City of Lakewood have made significant upgrades to the park.

I also suggest the No Sale of Fireworks in or around the city, to limit the trash and the noise that we have to endure.

I would love to hear more about the proposed changes to the city code.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Alejandro Sanchez Perez

**From:** [Don MacSparran](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** 4th of July Fireworks Public Hearing  
**Date:** Friday, May 22, 2020 4:36:25 PM

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City Clerk Schumacher,

Please consider my strong support of the proposed restriction which would allow fireworks only on July 4 between 11 a.m. and 11 p.m. and New Year's Eve.

Thank you,

Don MacSparran  
7125 Turquoise DR SW  
Lakewood, WA 98498

**From:** [Fred Ramey](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks Restrictions  
**Date:** Friday, May 22, 2020 9:05:01 AM

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As someone who has lived in Lakewood and owned a home for nearly 15 years, I am adamantly opposed to further restrictions on Fireworks. I believe that these are a tradition and should not be further limited.

The City will lose revenue through the sales at the stands, and people will light them off anyway. It will not go smoothly limiting them, and why would you put yourself in a position with a law that won't be obeyed and will surely lead to anger at the voting booth?

--

*Fred Ramey*  
253-353-2814

**From:** [Kristine Nicholls](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks proposed change  
**Date:** Friday, May 22, 2020 8:30:25 AM

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Good morning!

I'm very in support of the change to fireworks only being allowed on the 4th of July. Not only for safety concerns but for the well being of people and animals. I have to give my dog prescription medication to relax. I'm all for fireworks to celebrate but limiting it to one day makes sense.

Thank you,  
Kristine Nicholls

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Laura Sanchez](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks change  
**Date:** Friday, May 22, 2020 5:06:00 PM

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Hello,

I want to share my vote for limiting the fire work experience to the proposed idea of one day between the hours of 11-11pm. We are residents with a veteran suffering from PTSD. In addition our street Winona street is a full circus for days during 7/4 and 12/31 with trash, kids, and drunks using fireworks at all times of the day.

My family and I would very much appreciate the change, thank you .

Very Respectfully,

Laura Sanchez

**From:** [mr.kevin15@yahoo.com](mailto:mr.kevin15@yahoo.com)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks  
**Date:** Friday, May 22, 2020 11:15:23 PM

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I am in support of changing to fireworks only on 4th of July and new years Eve..... Also need to actually enforce the current law fireworks go off weekly in lake city area

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)



**From:** [Rebecca Sevin](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Firework Limits Comment  
**Date:** Friday, May 22, 2020 2:37:24 PM

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Dear Briana Schumacher and Lakewood City Council,

I'm writing to support the new limitations being proposed. Fireworks are at best entertainment and at worst a danger to others, but they are specifically detrimental to the well being of many including:

- Veterans and others who suffer from PTSD
- Some who suffer from Generalized Anxiety Disorder (GAD) or other Anxiety disorders
- Pets and animal wildlife
- Individuals with autism, especially children

Additionally, fire works put stress on our emergency services. 911 receives calls about fireworks when they're confused with gun fire, which needlessly ties up the line. While the number of injuries and fires are dropping, 2017 still saw 262 injuries in the State of Washington (<http://www.wsp.wa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/2017-Fireworks-Report.pdf>)

Fireworks also release chemicals into the air that may be harmful for others. (<https://www.forbes.com/sites/grrlscientist/2019/12/31/festive-fireworks-create-harmful-pall-of-pollution/#2b30b0f12853>)

Fireworks may be fun for those using them, but they are ultimately disturbing the peace and quality of life of those around them. Because the sound and chemicals of fireworks cannot be contained, those who use them are exposing others without their consent. Not only do I support limiting the legal hours for firework use, I hope the city will consider banning them outright and instead opt for a firework show by the city. These fireworks are more contained to one location and time, and they can be enjoyed by many instead of a few. The newly remodeled Colonial Center has an excellent view of the sky and would make a great viewing area, as would city hall. Instead of the 4th of July being an event to agitate neighbors, why not encourage community bonding? At the very least, limiting the use of fireworks will have a positive effect on the quality of life for many of our more vulnerable populations and should be enacted.

Thank you for your time and consideration,  
Rebecca Sevin  
10607 Douglas Dr. SW  
Lakewood WA 98499

From: [Virginia L. Kershaw](#)  
To: [Briana Schumacher](#)  
Subject: Re: Lakewood Fireworks  
Date: Friday, May 22, 2020 8:58:35 PM

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- helpdesk@cityoflakewood.us ext. 4357

Briana Schumacher,  
Thank you for the information about the city council meeting 1 June 2020 to discuss Lakewood fireworks. Please consider the following information from our Lakewood community. Please also inform us of the results from the meeting.  
Your help is appreciated.

Virginia L. Kershaw  
7023 Phillips Rd SW  
Lakewood, WA 98498  
email : [rwkershaw2@gmail.com](mailto:rwkershaw2@gmail.com)  
(253)983-1431

22 May 2019

We live in a special Lakewood neighborhood located at the end of Phillips Road, down the hill in a ravine along Chambers Creek, surrounded by heavy forests on both sides. We are 18 residences with addresses between 6711 through 7033 Phillips Rd SW, and there is only one narrow road for entering and exiting our neighborhood.

July is a dry month. Our community has major concerns about the dry woods making our area susceptible to forest fires. Our single road would make escape during a fire impossible for some people. Ten of our eighteen homes are occupied by elderly people.

The current law that legal fireworks are welcome in Lakewood presents a danger for our families on Chambers Creek. In order to prevent a potential disaster caused by fire started by illegal forms of fireworks, we would request that the Lakewood City Council consider voting for one or more of the following recommendations:

- Ban fireworks from Turquoise Rd SW and 65th Avenue West on the hills above our residences
- Provide constant police and/or fire patrol on Turquoise Rd SW and 65th Avenue West for illegal fireworks during the times fireworks are legal in Lakewood
- Ban fireworks throughout Lakewood entirely

Taking such a position would not only help us, it may save another Lakewood citizen or entity from being held responsible should their actions cause property damage, personal injuries or deaths.

We need your help, please.

Respectfully,

Virginia L. Kershaw  
7023 Phillips Rd SW

Steve Fry  
Bonnie Jones  
6729 Phillips Rd SW

Jim & Debe Christnacht  
6711 Phillips Rd SW

Vickie Samlaska

6805 Phillips Rd SW

Craig Woodard  
6815 Phillips Rd SW

Janyce Milasich  
7005 Phillips Rd SW

Dave & Lynn Koger  
7013 Phillips Rd SW

Scott Lankford  
Ingra Aamodt  
7015 Phillips Rd SW

Bud Kop  
7019 Phillips Rd SW

Mike Morgan  
Tonya Zepeda  
7021 & 6727 Phillips Rd SW

Hans Furtner  
Janine Brown  
7033 Phillips Rd SW

On Fri, May 22, 2020 at 10:55 AM Briana Schumacher <[BSchumacher@cityoflakewood.us](mailto:BSchumacher@cityoflakewood.us)> wrote:

Good Morning Ms. Kershaw: On Monday, June 1, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. or soon thereafter the Lakewood City Council will review public testimony and discuss proposed changes to city code that would restrict when fireworks can be discharged within city limits. The City Council would like to hear from residents on the proposed change. Comments can be sent via email to me at [bschumacher@cityoflakewood.us](mailto:bschumacher@cityoflakewood.us) or by mailing written comment to:

City of Lakewood  
Attn: Briana Schumacher  
6000 Main St SW  
Lakewood, WA 98499

More information regarding the proposed fireworks regulations can be found on the City's website at this link:  
<https://cityoflakewood.us/lakewood-city-council-reviews-fireworks-regulations/>

Thanks!

**Briana Schumacher** | City Clerk

[City of Lakewood](#)

6000 Main Street SW | Lakewood, WA 98499

Phone: 253.983.7705

Cell: 253.254.9040

[BSchumacher@cityoflakewood.us](mailto:BSchumacher@cityoflakewood.us)

**From:** [xxl44@aol.com](mailto:xxl44@aol.com)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks  
**Date:** Friday, May 22, 2020 6:50:27 PM

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Please follow our neighboring communities in banning fireworks. There are too many residents that are not considerate of their neighbors. Examples that I have witnessed especially in the Tillicum area are parents who let their under ten years of age children use them without adult supervision. About three years ago I had a confrontation with a neighbor because their children were firing the Roman candles towards my friends roof and trees. There are also those that are firing them before the legal dates and way past 11:00pm even during the legal days. If you are going to allow them maybe an alternative to letting them use at home is to charge admission to Fort Steilacoom park and let the families set them off there under the supervision of the fire department. The lot in front of the old G.I. Joe's building would also be a great idea. Thank you

Long time resident of this city and Veteran who doesn't think that the noise is the sound of freedom.

Sent from Windows Mail

**From:** [JERRY BOOTHE](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** 4th of July Comment  
**Date:** Saturday, May 23, 2020 4:31:16 PM

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The City Council would like to hear from residents on the proposed change on the 4th of July

Comments can be sent via email.

Briana, I like the one day 4th of July 11am to 11pm BUT I would like you to ask the Chief of Police in Lakewood if he and his force can man all the calls after and during this time frame. This question is very important due to many fireworks are fired after 11 [pm.in](#) this city.

One thing going for the city this year is that July 4th falls on a Saturday. Not many go to work the next day.

If the Lakewood Police Dept. cannot guarantee answering all calls, then there should be no firing of fireworks like Steilacoom and Dupont, it's as simple as that.

The owners of pets, the people with PTSD, the dryness of roofs and property approaching fire danger, people who have to work the next day, all would like fireworks to be banned in this city. Many citizens I know here in Lakewood doesn't know which fireworks are legal and illegal so they don;t report them. Also they fear of neighbors retaliation. Many factors should come up in this decision.

Thank you for your time,

Jerry Boothe  
11202 91st Ave Ct SW

Jerryman47@comcast.net

**From:** [Bill Harman](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Comment on proposed change in Lakewood policy on use of fireworks within city limits.  
**Date:** Saturday, May 23, 2020 11:18:13 AM

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Briana Schumacher,

As a fairly long time resident of the City of Lakewood (since June of 1986) I would really like to see the total ban of fireworks within the City but knowing that is probably not immediately obtainable I would strongly endorse the proposed amendment before the City Council that would further restrict the discharge of legal fireworks to July 4 between 11 a.m. and 11 p.m. and New Year's Eve only.

My best wishes for this action and my thanks to all who have had a hand in bringing the process to a successful completion.

Sincerely,

William R. Harman  
13014 Lake City Blvd. SW  
Lakewood, WA

**From:** [Lauren Mitchell](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks  
**Date:** Sunday, May 24, 2020 12:02:44 PM

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Hello:

I am against fireworks being used within Lakewood. As a retired military bomb tech and working as as Explosives Specialist with Homeland Security, I have issues with fireworks:

1. No established industry standards regarding dependability and safety
2. As indicated above, unpredictable (may function prematurely with little or no delay, may be excessively delayed, leading to serious injury
3. When wet, prone to release hydrogen gas creating potential explosive atmosphere
4. Flash powder and similar fireworks compositions are susceptible to initiation from static electricity

Other obvious reasons:

1. Risk of injuries/death
2. Impact on veterans with PTSD
3. NOISE, upsetting others needing to sleep or just the annoyance
4. Effect on pets

Restricting time and dates is going in the right direction though a total ban would be better.

Regards,  
Lauren Monique Mitchell

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)



**From:** [theladybuttons@gmail.com](mailto:theladybuttons@gmail.com)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks  
**Date:** Sunday, May 24, 2020 8:24:34 AM

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I am pleased that action is being taken on fireworks in Lakewood. I just wish it was more. The days of bottle rockets and sparklers is long gone and we are subjects to weeks of our neighbors setting off what sound like cannons. So loud it echoes through the neighborhood and is inescapable in the house. The real problem is that those in the neighborhood that just ignore the regulations. Fireworks go off every night as soon as the stands open and continue for several weeks after. Even right now we get an almost nightly volley of it. This change is a good step but it is time to ban them entirely. The risk of fire, personal harm, and disturbance to pets and wildlife is too great. Those of us that enjoy peace and quiet are tired of the chronic law breakers.

Lisa Lombardo  
10130 Wauna St SW  
Lakewood WA 98498  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [shawncb45](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks  
**Date:** Sunday, May 24, 2020 1:10:31 PM

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I think it would be better to allow fireworks on the 3rd, and 4th. Some people have to work, like me, and the 3rd was my only time I could celebrate. Thank you. Shawn Bottcher

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

**From:** [+12532289965@tmomail.net](mailto:+12532289965@tmomail.net)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Date:** Monday, May 25, 2020 10:50:33 PM  
**Attachments:** [text\\_1590466952364.txt](#)

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Please do NOT ban fireworks on New Years or 4th of July. My vote is to keep it just the way it is. Thank you.

.....

**T-Mobile**

This message was sent to you by a T-Mobile wireless phone.

**From:** [Barlow Buescher](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks  
**Date:** Monday, May 25, 2020 6:05:31 PM

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- helpdesk@cityoflakewood.us ext. 4357

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Brianna,

I am writing to support a reduced window for illegal use of fireworks in Lakewood. I would love to see fireworks made illegal throughout the city. Additionally, I would love to see enforcement of the current laws to limit the activity to the times allotted.

My wife works for the VA and mental health. She brings home stories of her veterans blockading themselves in their homes beginning about June 20. They will put batting over windows and doors in vain of keeping the terror at bay. I have taught active duty and retired military folks for many years, and while there are many who love the excitement of blowing off fireworks, there is a significant minority who find 4 July holiday absolutely terrifying.

Last year when we returned home from our Mt. Rainier get-the-dogs-where-they-won't-be-terrified trip at 3 AM detonations continued, and the air was so thick with smoke that it set off my asthma.

Without enforcement, the current law is useless as will be the change. I have called the police to complain, but have never been convinced that there has been any response. I know that the problem is overwhelming and that enforcement would be difficult.

Knowing that we have over 6000 veterans a year committing suicide, and knowing that fireworks push people into the terror of PTS, the fact that enforcement is difficult does not seem reasonable excuse.

I am glad we do not allow difficulty to get in the way of enforcing our drunk driving laws.

Respectfully,

Barlow Buescher

**From:** [Diane Olsen](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fire works  
**Date:** Monday, May 25, 2020 9:23:05 PM

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Please change the ordinance to restrict fire works to Just 4th of July and New Years Eve . Fire works are horrible for our dogs and all animals. We would have to get out of town with our dog cause it was so bad. We tried meds and a calming wrap nothing helped. We were worried she'd have a heart attack.

Thank you for your time !!

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [FRED BLOCK](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** proposed fireworks ordinance  
**Date:** Monday, May 25, 2020 9:31:04 AM

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I oppose the residential use of any fireworks that make loud noises or fly into the air. Every year we suffer through several days of being awakened due to inconsiderate neighbors. Many animals are terrified and some are lost. Fires are started and trash litters the streets and yards. If council feels a need for such fireworks, I suggest a safe detonation area away from residences. The illegal fireworks sold on reservations should stay on reservations. Finally, I urge council to structure any new ordinance in a way that simplifies enforcement. One of the biggest frustrations with the current ordinance is the complete lack of enforcement by Lakewood Police.

Fred Block  
9303 Westview Drive SW  
Lakewood

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [Joseph G. Boyle](#)  
To: [Briana Schumacher](#)  
Subject: Lakewood City Council reviews fireworks regulations  
Date: Monday, May 25, 2020 11:35:08 AM  
Attachments: [PastedGraphic-1.png](#)

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- helpdesk@cityoflakewood.us ext. 4357

Memo To: Lakewood City Council

Date: May 25, 2020

Last year the "pyrotechnic genius" on 116th St SW in Lakewood shot fireworks for days on end at all hours. Lacking the required skill to shoot fireworks, two of his fireballs (Roman Candles) shot over our fence and landed on our roof. These two fireworks devices were on fire when they hit our roof, creating a giant stain on our roofing material that we woke up to the next morning. Two of us could have died in our sleep.

Luckily for us, we had converted from a wood shake roof to a standing seam metal roof, so our house did not burn to the ground, nor was anyone injured or killed. We were also pleased the "fireworks genius" did not start a forest fire in the many fir trees in our neighborhood.

Remnants/trash from fireworks such as bottle rockets were scattered throughout our neighborhood, exposing at least three properties and their occupants to harm.

I was careful to be pleasant when I contacted my neighbor to share our concerns and ask him to stop the dangerous fireworks. He told me one of his guests was a policeman, and another was a fireman. They told him he could shoot all the fireworks he wanted in Lakewood.

We then called the police, but 911 claimed not to have enough staff to respond to fireworks complaints. Fireworks complaints should come as no surprise to Lakewood City Council and the Lakewood Police Department.

City Council should make sure our police department has appropriate funding for proper staffing to handle fireworks complaints, including enforcing the law and confiscating illegal fireworks. When I worked Lakewood, we had a specially dedicated law enforcement team to respond to fireworks complaints.

Lacking police protection, the City of Lakewood is promoting having its citizens take vigilante action. Vigilante action occurs when citizens deem law enforcement to be inadequate.

While I have a long history of supporting our Lakewood Police Department and will continue to do so in the future, last year the department was inadequate during the fireworks period.

Citizen anger, fireworks, and civilian guns are not a good mix. Ask yourself, "Should I let someone set my house on fire or should I fight back to defend my property?"

An adequate fireworks ordinance can prevent the devastation depicted in my photo below from occurring in the City of Lakewood if Lakewood City Council has the required backbone to do the right thing by eliminating fireworks in our city.

The ordinance should then be supported by enforcement. If the word spreads in our community that illegal use of fireworks is sure to bring consequences, then the dangerous behavior will stop.



My photo depicts the possible results of combining fireworks with a weak city ordinance and no law enforcement. One home, one motorhome, and one jeep destroyed along with the home's contents.

Families victimized by injury, death, property damage, and devastation are not likely to wish the Lakewood City Council a Happy 4th of July!

I realize our council is only considering reducing the hazardous days from 4 days to 2 days and I thank you for that. The proposed ordinance will help, so I urge you to please vote YES.

Next, I would ask that Lakewood City Council create and pass an ordinance that eliminates all fireworks every day of the year.

While fireworks supporters will intensely disagree, know that outlawing products that year after year creates harm, is the right thing for Lakewood City Council to do. Then back your action with enforcement.

Please observe the street sign in my photo. It accentuates the fact that fireworks can be a dead end.

In closing, I feel the need to be a devil's advocate on one point with no desire to confuse Lakewood City Council.

If City Council chooses to allow fireworks on New Years' Eve, the lawful hours should run from 11:00 a.m. until 12:30 a.m.

The peak excitement and celebration for the New Year are at 11:59 p.m. and 12:01 a.m., and running to not later than 12:30 a.m. That is when the Times Square Ball drops in New York City, the horns blow, and joyful and drunken citizens ignite fireworks. Happy New Year!

If fireworks are legal for the New Year, 12:30 a.m. is a reasonable and appropriate time to stop igniting fireworks.

END OF COMMENTS.

jgb  
Joseph G. Boyle  
11537 Clovercrest Drive SW  
Lakewood, WA 98499

T: 253-582-0066  
E: [jgb263@comcast.net](mailto:jgb263@comcast.net)

\*\*\*\*\*

Memo To: Lakewood City Council  
Date: May 25, 2020

Last year the "pyrotechnic genius" on 116th St SW in Lakewood shot fireworks for days at all hours. Lacking the required skill to shoot fireworks, two of his fireballs shot over our fence and landed on our roof. These two fireworks devices were on fire when they hit our roof creating a stain on our roofing material. Two of us could have died in our sleep.

Luckily for us, we had converted from a wood shake roof to a standing seam metal roof so our house did not burn to the ground, nor was anyone injured or killed. Additionally, luck was on our side in that the "fireworks genius" did not start a forest fire in the many fir trees in our neighborhood.

Remnants / trash from fireworks were sprinkled throughout our neighborhood exposing at least three properties and their occupants to harm.

I had contacted my neighbor in a pleasant manner to tell him of our concerns and ask him to stop the fireworks. He indicated he could do what he wanted and no-one was going to stop him.

We then called the police, but 911 claimed to not have enough staff to respond to fireworks complaints. Fireworks complaints should come as no surprise. Staffing should be arranged to handle the complaints including enforcing the law and confiscating illegal fireworks. When I worked Lakewood we had special dedicated law enforcement teams to respond to fireworks complaints.

Lacking police protection, the City of Lakewood is promoting having its citizens take vigilante action. Vigilante action occur when citizens deem law enforcement to be inadequate.

While I have a long history of supporting our Lakewood Police Department, last year the department was inadequate during the fireworks time period. Citizen anger, fireworks, and guns are not a good mix. Ask yourself, "Should I let someone burn my house down? Or should I fight back to defend my property?"

My photo below shows what can be prevented if Lakewood City Council has the required backbone to do the right thing by eliminating fireworks in our city. Enforcement is needed to help spread the word that fireworks will cause negative consequences for fireworks violators.





Photo depicts the potential results of fireworks plus no law enforcement. One home, one motorhome, and one jeep destroyed along with the home's contents.

Families victimized by injury, death, property damage and devastation are not likely to wish the Lakewood City Council a Happy 4th of July!

I realize our council is only considering reducing the hazardous days from 4 days to 2 days. That helps and since that is the best that has been put before you, please vote YES.

Next I would ask that an improved life and property saving ordinance be created that will eliminate all fireworks every day of the year. While there will be disagreement, outlawing goofy products that have the potential for creating such great harm is the right thing to do.

Please observe the street sign in my photo. It accentuates the fact that fireworks can be a dead end.

In closing with no desire to confuse you, I feel the need to be a devils advocate on one point.

If City Council chooses to allow fireworks on New Years Eve, the lawful hours should run from 11:00 a.m. until 12:30 a.m. My reasoning is in spite of what people might think, I am not trying to ruin people's fun as long as their fun does not include burning my house down. The peak of New Years is at 12:01 just after midnight. That is when the big ball drops in New York City, the horns blow, and the fireworks is ignited. Happy New Year!

jgb

Joseph G. Boyle  
11537 Clovercrest Drive SW  
Lakewood, WA 98499

T: 253-582-0066  
E: [jgb263@comcast.net](mailto:jgb263@comcast.net)

**From:** [Karen Ferreira](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks  
**Date:** Monday, May 25, 2020 10:35:25 AM

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I request the Lakewood City Council restrict the discharge of legal fireworks to July 4 between 11 a.m. and 11 p.m. and New Year's Eve only. I have no need to go into a long dissertation as to why. The reason is obvious, safety.

Karen Ferreira  
10708 Westwood Drive SW  
2535819315

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Kjeri J Boyle](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Cc:** [Kjeri J Boyle](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks in Lakewood, WA  
**Date:** Monday, May 25, 2020 7:58:48 AM

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To the Members of the Lakewood City Council:

I urge you to affirm the proposed changes to the to city code that would restrict when fireworks can be discharged within the city limits to July 4 and New Year's Eve to take effect in 2021.

I frankly would like fireworks to be banned at all times in the City of Lakewood. These proposed changes are a good compromise. However, I will continue to hope in time fireworks will be banned. The danger to life and property, the distress of our veterans afflicted with PTSD, and the fright inflicted on animals lead me to worry about the discharge of fireworks by citizens who are not trained pyrotechnic professionals.

Difficulty in enforcing the restrictions is no excuse in my mind. If something is a danger to members of our community, the leaders and members of our community have an obligation to protect the citizens from that danger.

Kjeri J. Boyle  
11537 Clovercrest Drive SW  
Lakewood, WA 98499

**From:** [Loverin, Don](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fourth of July Firework Ban  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 26, 2020 3:40:12 PM

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As residents of Lakewood for 55 plus years, my family and I applaud and support the City of Lakewood's efforts in banning fireworks except on the given Holidays. Personally, I and many others would like to see a complete ban on all ignited dynamite that goes up into the air and explodes (except when done by professionals) but understand your intentions as a fair compromise. I would like to have the city council contemplate, however, that laws made without law enforcement or neighborhood watch group support, and without consequences when ignored, are simply good wishes and hardly worth the council's efforts... Hopefully the city will spend some resources in educating it's residence regarding the new law. Also, unless the sale of fireworks is restricted to the day in which they are allowed to be discharged this law will result in no effective change.

Thank you,

Don Loverin

**From:** [Janet Deakle](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 26, 2020 8:04:24 PM

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I am for limiting fireworks in the city. We have a higher population now, and our houses are close together. Besides, having cats that have severe problems with the noise, I don't think that it safe. Many people that set off fireworks have been drinking most of the day, common sense and personal judgement have been lacking the last few years. In addition to this, they use any excuse they can to fire the things off. We had a neighbors house catch on fire one 4th of July. That was scary as it had been a dry year and the trees were very dry. If there has to be fireworks, then let the professionals do the shows. Also, many of the outlawed fireworks are accessible to people, so the bangs are bigger than usual. This city keeps growing, and we are closer together than ever.

*Janet Deakle*

**From:** [jessih76](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks ban please  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 26, 2020 6:34:17 PM

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I am all for limiting fireworks to one day and so happy that this is being discussed. Thank you

Jessica Hughes  
Lake City home owner

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

**From:** [Mellani McAleenan](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Comments on proposed amendments to fireworks amendments  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 26, 2020 6:11:04 PM

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Briana Schumacher, City Clerk  
City of Lakewood  
6000 Main Street SW  
Lakewood WA 98499

Sent via email to [bschumacher@cityoflakewood.us](mailto:bschumacher@cityoflakewood.us)

Ms. Schumacher and Lakewood City Council members –

As a resident of the City of Lakewood approximately 10 years, I write in strong support of your proposed amendments to Chapter 8.68 of the Lakewood Municipal Code, Fireworks. In fact, I urge you to go further and issue an outright ban of the sale and discharge of fireworks during both the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and winter periods.

According to the Washington State Patrol, Fire Prevention Bureau<sup>1</sup>, roughly 93 cities ban the sale, discharge, or both of fireworks during both the summer and winter periods, including the cities of Fircrest, Steilacoom, Ruston, and Tacoma. Another five ban the sale and/or discharge during the summer period, and 63 ban the sale/or discharge during the winter period. Seven counties ban the sale, discharge, or both during both the July and winter periods, 1 bans the sale and/or discharge during the summer period, and 8 ban the sale and/or discharge during the winter period. Numerous other cities and counties have enacted ordinances that are more restrictive than state law. You would not be out ahead of the pack in enacting a ban, and there are many examples available to draw from regarding implementation and enforcement.

Because the other major cities within Pierce County tightly control the sale and/or discharge of fireworks, I would suppose that this increases the use of fireworks in Lakewood, with people travelling from the other cities to join with Lakewood residents. On American Lake we are surrounded by houses with fireworks parties running for several days and late into the night during the summer. Banning fireworks would not ban the ability of these groups to continue to meet but would reduce the noise levels significantly.

Your press release states that “a complete ban may not be successful at stopping firework discharges,” however, with so many cities already enacting bans, you have endless examples to learn from. Moreover, while some residents will not follow the

law, many more will, and the incidences can be reduced dramatically. It is unseemly to concede “compromise” merely because some residents are not law abiding. I do applaud the fact that you already employ both criminal and civil penalties as options.

I appreciate your understanding that many residents “view fireworks as a nuisance” as well as the need to “limit the impact to pets and animals adversely affected by loud noises commonly associated with fireworks.”<sup>2</sup> I imagine that such noises also negatively impact certain military personnel and others who may experience post-traumatic stress. For my family, the constant barrage of noise is so bad that we are forced to take time off work and travel to a location that bans fireworks. Our dog is absolutely terrified and traumatized from the days of loud noises. It takes days for him to recover afterward. The blasts continue late into the night; and more often than not, the next day is a workday, forcing us to take leave because we are not able to sleep until the wee hours of the morning. We would much prefer to stay home, enjoy the lake and our community, and invite friends and family over to join us, but it is simply not possible anymore.

Additionally, the amount of fireworks debris, cigarette butts, beer cans/bottles, and broken glass that wash ashore in the days following fireworks periods is appalling. The amount of lake litter always increases during the summer months, but it is exponential in the days following the first week of July. Swimmers and others enjoying the lake cannot risk removing their shoes. Based on the garbage that lands in my front and back yards, the environmental impact cannot be good.

Short of a full ban, I encourage you to take this opportunity to expand your emergency authority to enact a ban under specific circumstances. Ordinance 8.68.050(K) appears to relate only to public displays and states that they can be discontinued based on concerns over crowd control or high winds or wet weather that create a fire danger. Given that you are in the process of amending the chapter, please consider adopting an amendment that allows emergency prohibitions citywide based on those same circumstances as well as adding a more general provision such as when “extenuating emergency conditions exist” (See, e.g. Whatcom County Code 5.20.105) to give you latitude to address extraordinary circumstances.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Mellani McAleenan

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.wsp.wa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/2018-Information-Regarding-Fireworks-Bans-or-Restricted-Sales-Use-Current-as-of-May-31-2018.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <https://cityoflakewood.us/lakewood-city-council-reviews-fireworks-regulations/>



**From:** [oscar davis](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 26, 2020 2:24:13 PM

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Just Ban the fireworks altogether.

**From:** [Patricia Pama](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks regulation  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 26, 2020 3:59:34 PM

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To whom it may concern,

The purposed plan sounds incredible. We do enjoy watching and setting off fireworks however several days in a row is a bit much. We are a family with small children and pets and it can be a bit traumatic for them as the fireworks continue for several day leading up to and after July 4th.

Thank you for your time. Stay healthy and safe out there.

Sincerely,  
The Pama family

**From:** [Ruth Branham](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 26, 2020 2:40:07 PM

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I agree with the July 4th only. Every year it gets worse and like everything else people just think about themselves. Fireworks affect dogs, small children, Veterans and many more. Several times we have found bottle rocks and other firework leftovers in our yard. Since our summers are becoming drier the chance of fire increases.

Thank You.

Ruth Branham  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Scott Moss](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks comments  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 26, 2020 3:53:09 PM

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Hello,

I have been a resident of Lakewood most of my 26 years on this earth. I currently would like for the fireworks ordinance to remain the same. I personally don't think it needs to be updated.

Thanks,  
Scott Moss

**From:** [Skip Smith](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Cc:** [Skip Smith](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks in Lakewood  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 26, 2020 9:14:53 AM

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Dear Brianna:

Per the article in the recent Suburban Times regarding the upcoming proposal to restrict fireworks in Lakewood to July 4<sup>th</sup> and New Years only, can you please forward my following sentiments to the Lakewood City Council?

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To the Lakewood City Council:

I would like to take this opportunity to address the proposed amendment regarding the discharge of legal fireworks which would change their legal discharge from July 3, 4, 5, and New Years to July 4 and New Years only. While I understand and appreciate the proposal and its perspective, it seems to me that THIS IS NOT THE YEAR TO ADOPT THIS CHANGE. Since this proposed amendment was put forth, the world (including Lakewood) has been introduced to Covid-19 and its many negative effects. One of the “effects” which is wearing thin on the American public is that of “Government” (whether Federal, State, or Local) limiting freedoms, however well-intended. It is my position that this proposed amendment perhaps be revisited in the future, but not during this year when all Americans (including us in Lakewood) are looking to “Celebrate Something” and are weary of “Government” telling us what to do/not to do. I would urge you to consider this proposal at a later date, but not this year!

Thank you for considering my perspective, and thank you for doing all you do to help make Lakewood a wonderful place to live.

Regards,

**Skip Smith**

Kyle “Skip” Smith

6714 Villa Madera Drive. S.W.

Lakewood, WA 98499

**From:** [Tina V.](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 26, 2020 2:58:23 PM

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This is a ridiculous proposal. LEAVE IT ALONE. The fireworks regulation is just that, a regulation already set in place. The time that people get to discharge fireworks is already limited, even more so with weather conditions. Not only that, but people buy the fireworks with their OWN MONEY, let them enjoy it during the times and days that are already allowed. Fireworks are not a year round thing, if people complain for the very few days that are allowed, let them, since there are way more important things for people to be worried about. Why would any of you try to increase phone calls made to the police about fireworks? That's all this will do is bring an overwhelming amount of phone calls just for fireworks, when there are actual emergencies that will happen during those times. Leave everything as it is, it's only for a few days, with limited time already.

**From:** [Will Ernst](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks rule change  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 26, 2020 6:56:32 AM

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Hello Briana,

I support the reduced duration of approved use of fireworks now being considered by the City Council. The use of fireworks is occurring day and night at all hours over multiple days, particularly during the summer holiday. Freedom for some is a burden and hazard for others, and it can be amply expressed as the intended patriotic gesture on July 4th itself. I know that our police department has many priorities, but strict enforcement should be part of the City's messaging (even if significant enforcement is really likely impracticable), including possible use of an anonymous complaint option. I personally wouldn't want my name associated with a complaint about drunk and rude people who like to blow things up.

I thank the City for seriously considering this action, and support its enactment.

Best Regards,

Will Ernst  
206.250.4586

**From:** [professor higgins](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 27, 2020 2:25:52 PM

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I fully support the proposed firework regulations. I am tired of days and days of fireworks. I have pets so this makes life difficult. Also there is a fire danger. My neighbors have fireworks from the reservation so this makes the problem worse.

Cynthia L. Burchfield, 8716 115th St Ct SW, Lakewood, WA. (253)588-1779



**From:** [dave the barber](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 27, 2020 7:21:11 AM

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To the Council:

I would like to take this opportunity to “agree with Joe Boyle.”

Furthermore, I would like to take it one step further: I would like to see a total ban on the sale and usage of ALL fireworks in the City of Lakewood.

Fireworks of all kinds — in my opinion there is *\*no\** ‘Safe and Sane’ fireworks — cause serious harm and injury every single year; property damage from fire can occur once the firework flies out of control, costing much money and hardship; pets are terrified, necessitating the use of tranquilizers that can only be obtained by an expensive veterinary consultation, and so on.

Please ban the sale of fireworks; please make issuing a citation for their display and use a matter of importance to the Lakewood Police Department; please make the fines stiff enough to cause a real hardship upon the scofflaws who insist on terrorizing neighborhoods with their ‘celebrations.’

I have endured more years of being awoken by the booms and bangs of illegal ‘Indian’ fireworks than I care to think. My dog, a gentle and quiet animal, which barely barks, is reduced to a totally quivering, pacing, terrified creature that cannot find any peace even when tranquilized.

Ban the sale and use of fireworks. Enforce the ban. Make the penalties for violation severe.

Thank you,

Dave Viens  
11224 94th Ave Ct SW  
Lakewood, WA 98498-2815  
253-222-0539  
[daveviens@gmail.com](mailto:daveviens@gmail.com)

**From:** [DIANE MATHENY](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 27, 2020 7:19:25 PM

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Please keep them as they are! This year, especially, people need something to celebrate in this country !

**From:** [Gerry Robertson](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed Fireworks Restrictions  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 27, 2020 9:44:58 PM

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I approve the restrictions and propose that fireworks be banned entirely. There is far too much actual damage and conflict within neighborhoods for it to continue. I've had shrubs burned and my dogs traumatized by the endless explosions. Irresponsible citizens have ruined the experience.

A community fireworks event, if possible, would be more fun and safe(r) than the mayhem we all endure annually.

Thank you.

Gerry Robertson.

**From:** [ginnyernie2@aol.com](mailto:ginnyernie2@aol.com)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** fireworks  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 27, 2020 11:40:25 AM

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Hi Ms. Schumacher,

I saw a post on a Neighborhood website last week regarding a fireworks proposal coming up for a vote soon in Lakewood. I am all for limiting the use of fireworks at all times. It looks like the proposal will limit legal times to July 4 and Jan. 31 only. I am all for that. I would go further and would support efforts for a complete ban. There was a statement in the post that a complete ban was ineffective in neighboring cities. I disagree. We have driven into Tacoma on the 4th to get away from the noise. It is quiet there. We heard a few fireworks being set illegally, but very few. I wouldn't call that ban ineffective. In Lakewood, it sounds like a war zone. The fireworks, the police sirens, the fire sirens until well past midnight all combine to make sleep impossible until 2am or later. My dog shakes for hours despite the sedatives we get from her vet. I would call the police if I knew exactly who was setting the fireworks. Since most of them are legal, would that do any good? After all the police can certainly hear them well after 11pm. Nothing shuts down. Since you allow all sorts of fireworks to be sold, there are very little controls on this madness. We moved here in 1996 and were shocked at what is allowed on the 4th. We came from Maryland where none of these fireworks are sold let alone used by private citizens. I live in a quiet neighborhood where few if any close neighbors set fireworks, but others 1 or 2 blocks away sound like they are in my yard on the 4th and NYE. Please do all you can to stop this very annoying and unsafe tradition.

Ginny Summers  
8 Creekwood Ln SW  
Lakewood 98499  
[ginnyernie2@aol.com](mailto:ginnyernie2@aol.com)

**From:** [jason.nelson](#)  
**To:** [Briana.Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 27, 2020 10:02:56 PM

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No ban. More bans just turn people into criminals for simply having fun. Look at all the years marijuana was banned. It didnt stop anyone.

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

**From:** [Jason Woods](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Don't change fireworks rules please  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 27, 2020 4:06:52 PM

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Don't change fireworks rules. This is a patriotic right of passage for families and a tradition to be passed on with pride

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [KM Hills](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Fireworks  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 27, 2020 8:36:05 AM

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Good Evening Council

Kerry Hills City Resident

I am offering comment on the firework regulations. As reported in the Suburban Times . . .

"At the direction of council the Public Safety Advisory Committee conducted informal surveys, held discussions and reviewed regulations in place in neighboring jurisdictions. The result of that work was a recommendation not to amend city code due to a low impact of the calls for service around fireworks discharges."

Maybe, Just Maybe the City and Council will respect the work that their own Public Safety Advisory Committee put into those surveys and keep things as they are and allow the residents to celebrate as usual. Seems the regulations have worked well for many years in the past so why fix what isn't broken? Don't let a few complaints ruin it for the other 60k people that live in Lakewood.

Thank you for listening

Sent from my phone with Outlook for Android

**From:** [SHAWN OLSEN](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 27, 2020 12:32:36 PM

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please change the fireworks to one day only. Living in Lakewood on the week before the 4th is like living in a war zone. All the animals are tortured with noise for a week its hell on the animals and the rest of us here.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)



**From:** [Stacey Scott](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks feedback  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 27, 2020 1:26:22 PM

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I would love to have more restrictions on the fireworks. It's is a warzone in Oakbrook area for several days.

Stacey Scott

**From:** [Steve Swortz](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 27, 2020 10:46:20 AM

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I don't mind the proposed changes as long as it doesn't lead to an all out ban.

Steve Swortz  
swortzy@gmail.com  
253-223-6601

**From:** [Cindy Finel](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks  
**Date:** Thursday, May 28, 2020 5:18:55 AM

---

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Hello,

I am writing to provide feedback on the proposed changes for fireworks regulations. I support the changes. While I enjoy the celebration around the 4th of July, the days of loud fireworks late into the night has been hard to deal with at times. I have gone to family members' homes in neighboring cities where fireworks are banned to sleep when I need to work around the holiday and knew my neighborhood would be too loud. I have sent my dog to stay with a family member or medicated him to help deal with the days of noise. Limiting it to one day to manage if I had to work around the holiday would help. Thank you for taking our input regarding the decision.

Sincerely,

Cindy Finel, Lakewood resident

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Cristin Kiley](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks restrictions  
**Date:** Thursday, May 28, 2020 11:24:22 AM

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I am a resident of Lakewood and a registered voter in Pierce County - I live on Lake Louise Drive.

I enjoy fireworks on the 4th of July and New Years' Eve so I am in favor of allowing them on those dates.

I am not in favor of allowing them on days surrounding those traditional dates for a few reasons - first, the noise and disruption is substantial. It sounds like a war zone and, being in the Army, I've been to a war zone! The smoke and fog that hangs over the area for a day or two afterwards is bothersome to anyone with breathing issues.

Finally, there are always people who stretch the dates and hours - and our police have way too much to do to track down everyone who is exploding fireworks outside of "legal" hours.

So - i would be in FAVOR of the proposed restrictions of specific hours on the 4th and 31st, knowing that people will still set them off on other days, but hopefully to a lesser extent

Cristin Mount

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Eileen Hogan](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks regulations  
**Date:** Thursday, May 28, 2020 12:48:11 PM

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I support the proposed fireworks restrictions!

Lakewood citizens don't even follow the current regulations. The big fireworks that are allowed are disruptive and dangerous and last for days and days and go into the early hours of the morning.

And in a town with a VA hospital, it's very disrespectful to vets suffering from PTSD. Not to mention a hardship for pet owners and the humane society.

Vote yes to the new restrictions!

Thank you,  
Eileen Hogan

**From:** [Eileen Price](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks  
**Date:** Thursday, May 28, 2020 11:10:37 AM

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---

I am writing to express my support for the proposed amendment before the City Council that would further restrict the discharge of legal fireworks to July 4 between 11 a.m. and 11 p.m. and New Year's Eve only.

My family and I have lived here for five years and instead of looking forward to celebrating our nation's independence day, we dread it. Powerful, if not professional grade, fireworks start being shot off at least a week in advance and usually extend another week or so beyond the 4th of July. Last year on July 3rd and 4th, these jarring explosives were set off all around us literally every few minutes beginning at dusk and going till 2AM (this is not an exaggeration). They were so close that we observed the sparks and ash falling on our roof through the grove of dry trees around us, and we have serious concerns about fires. We do what we can to keep out the noise, but not much helps and we have to try and calm our animals who howl in terror for hours. By the end of the night all of our nerves are completely shot. Last year was the first time I called the police. They dutifully took down my complaint and said they would look into it, but we never saw a patrol car in the neighborhood. We understand that the offenders are so prolific that it's likely impossible to enforce even the current rules.

In an area where there are multiple options for viewing professional firework shows offered by local municipalities, I find it completely unnecessary that anything other than fun, kid-friendly firecrackers be legal.

I look at this proposed amendment as just an initial step towards more thoughtful legislation. Hopefully, if passed, it will make next year's holiday a tiny bit more bearable.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely Yours,  
Eileen Price

**From:** [Jay Y](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks in Lakewood  
**Date:** Thursday, May 28, 2020 12:48:10 PM

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Good afternoon Mr. Schumacher

I am lived in Lakewood a long time. I use to enjoy the fireworks. But with the Amount of Illegal fireworks, neighbors not being considerate, not following the rules set forth by the city. It is time to BAN or limit to one day the 4th of July to fire them. With people needing to sleep for work, to take care of their families it is time to end or limit fireworks.

There are plenty of big shows or tv to watch the fireworks going off. It would make Lakewood PD and Central Pierce Fire and Rescues holiday time easier on them as well.

It is unfortunate that we have gotten to this point. But enough is enough. It is time for the council to take action and solve this issue.

Thank you for your time. Jay Yotty, 253-820-4685 if you would like to talk or have me expand further on my ideas.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Jessica Mae Jennings](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks ordinance  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 27, 2020 11:17:07 PM

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Greetings,

I agree with everything in Joe Boyle's May 25, 2020 e-mail to Lakewood City Council regarding the proposed firework ordinance. I urge you to please vote YES to reduce firework days from 4 days down to 2 days.

Furthermore, I would ask that Lakewood City Council create and pass an ordinance that eliminates all fireworks every day of the year.

Sincerely,  
Jessica Mae Jennings  
7712 112th St. SW  
Lakewood, WA 98498  
(949) 872-7722



**From:** [Jody Kilcup](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks  
**Date:** Thursday, May 28, 2020 6:10:38 AM

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Good Morning,

As a resident of Lakewood I'd like to provide my opinion of fireworks as requested.

Plain and simple I believe they should be banned even on July 4 and New Years Eve. They are dangerous, loud and disruptive. There are so many professional events that people can attend if they choose to do so. I will never understand why it is allowed to light these things off in neighborhoods with children, elderly and pets.

These are banned completely in numerous surrounding cities of Lakewood- Why are they still allowed here?

Thank you for the opportunity to share my opinion.

Jody Kilcup  
8323 95th St SW  
Lakewood 98498

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Johnny Johnson](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Date:** Thursday, May 28, 2020 5:31:53 PM

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Why cant it just be left aloan. At some point we have to stop telling people how to live their lives. The current law is pritty strict. The only tightening i would support is 10am to 10 pm the whole 5 day week the holiday being the 5th day. Remember what the holiday stands for. I am a senior and prop tax payer in this city.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

**From:** [Juanita Howard](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks  
**Date:** Thursday, May 28, 2020 6:53:19 AM

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Please outlaw fireworks completely. They are dangerous and no matter what time limit you put in them, people set them off for a week at least and throughout the year. Last week there were several set off around Washington St. and Vernon. They shook our house! Why should we have to listen to constant noise. It is horrible for pets and people with PTSD and severe anxiety. I know that outlawing them won't deter some people, but it may help some.

Thanks,

Nita Howard

--

Nita Howard

[nita6426@gmail.com](mailto:nita6426@gmail.com)

253-459-3699

**From:** [Marilyn Wittig](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks Regulations  
**Date:** Thursday, May 28, 2020 2:24:59 PM

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Hello. I am in favor of the new fireworks restrictions of limiting to July 4th, and New Years Eve only.

I feel the setting off of fireworks infringes on others who see no benefit in the noise and the anxiety it causes to people and animals.

Thank you,

M. Wittig

**From:** [Maryjane Macdonald](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fire Works  
**Date:** Thursday, May 28, 2020 3:03:52 PM

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I have lived at 9621 Winona St.S.W.

for 23 years. Over the years I have come to dread one week before and one week after the 4th of July. New Years is not quite as bad.

Every year a 3-4 block area becomes a war zone. I am talking about the 3 blocks adjacent to my home. Frequently the air in the neighborhood is THICK with smoke.. really thick. The noise does not adhere to the parameters set by the city. The fireworks start early(including daytime) and often go on until 1-2 in the morning .. way before the 4th and after the 4th. I have never called the police because they do not respond. I would guess that many types of fireworks are not legal. I hear the ones that sound like bombs. I also believe I hear guns being shot at the same time. In the last couple of years if the subject comes up on neighborhood watch groups many people voice their displeasure with those not in favor of the tradition. People get called derogatory names and are called unpatriotic for having a different tolerance. Sometimes it is suggested that if you do not want or like fireworks you should move somewhere else.

Every year I worry about my yard and house catching on fire. Every year I pick up debris in my yard from bottle rockets.

I personally would like it if fireworks were not allowed in the city limits. I think the large displays on Commencement Bay and the town of Steilacoom are safer and more spectacular. JBLM would be another place to hold such displays.

If the show must go on ...I would like to see more police enforcement available during this time.. People are disturbing the peace and breaking the law as well as jeopardizing the safety of Lakewood residents.

If you would like to hear what I am talking about I have an audio tape from last years 4th.

Thanks for reading.

Sincerely,

Maryjane MacDonald

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Mrl364](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks opinion  
**Date:** Thursday, May 28, 2020 12:48:08 PM

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Briana,  
If it was my choice I would ban private use. I would go along with a city sponsored fireworks display.  
Michael Lacadie

Sent from AOL Mobile Mail  
Get the new AOL app: [mail.mobile.aol.com](mailto:mail.mobile.aol.com)

**From:** [Michael Webster](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks  
**Date:** Thursday, May 28, 2020 7:40:38 AM

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I would like them to be banned completely. I have been unable to go to events on the fourth due having to stay home to protect my home from stray fireworks land in in our yard and on our roof.

Michael Webster  
6910 86th St. SW

**From:** [Richard Price](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks Restrictions Amendment  
**Date:** Thursday, May 28, 2020 1:21:41 PM

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Dear Briana Schumacher,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed amendment before the City Council that would further restrict the discharge of legal fireworks to July 4 between 11 a.m. and 11 p.m. and New Year's Eve only. This amendment would greatly benefit my household and our greater community.

Thank you,  
Richard Price



**From:** [Susanne Peters](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Fireworks  
**Date:** Thursday, May 28, 2020 12:12:31 AM

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I've been told that you are the one to contact in this regard and I am writing to you to comment about the Lakewood policy in regard to fireworks. The 4th of July is only a little more than a month away, and the racket will be upon us again. The last few years we escaped to Eastern Washington, but it would be very nice to stay home and enjoy the 4th in our own back yard. This has been impossible since I moved here 24 years ago.

As far as I know the city allows fireworks the day before and the day after the 4th. Why can't it just be on the 4th? But people are who they are, and they set them off indiscriminately however they feel like around that time, ignoring the rules. Why even allow them at all? So many communities have now outlawed this outdated practice because of the danger of physical harm, fire and air /noise pollution. And do not forget what these explosion do to terrify pets and wild animals alike. There are adequate public firework displays in this area that families can enjoy.

As a long time home owner in Lakewood I want to express my "Nay on personal fireworks" in Lakewood. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Susanne Peters  
6418 - 93rd St SW  
Lakewood, WA 98499  
253-431-3940

**From:** [cliffiei](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks  
**Date:** Friday, May 29, 2020 10:08:07 AM

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---

We would like to see the banning of fireworks, to include sales (loud explosive type), in the City of Lakewood. Have no issue with the safer type sold in stores.

Cliff and Katie Jackson  
Over 24 years residents, and home owner.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy Tablet

**From:** [David Bingman](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks  
**Date:** Friday, May 29, 2020 2:16:11 AM

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---

My input is to limit it to the two days listed. No matter what is done the law is moot unless there is voluntary compliance and enforcement. I have heard very little on past enforcement.

David Bingman

**From:** [Deborah Fluckiger](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fourth of July  
**Date:** Thursday, May 28, 2020 6:58:57 PM

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---

My first preference would be banning all fireworks, except for sponsored events (lake communities). My second, would restrict to 4th only.

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S10, an AT&T 5G Evolution capable smartphone  
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

**From:** [fshackleford](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** FireWorks  
**Date:** Friday, May 29, 2020 6:32:13 AM

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Leave the law as it NOW stands.

This is our nation's Birthday.

I don't like the noise but once or twice a year is ok.

As far as safety. You can't protect all the people from everything all the time. There will be injuries and possibly a death. New laws won't stop this from happening.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

**From:** [Karen Whitney](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fire works  
**Date:** Friday, May 29, 2020 11:21:54 AM

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---

Ban all fireworks in Lakewood!!!!!! Every city around Lakewood does. Steilacoom, Tacoma, University Place and the list goes on.

Lakewood, by the very name. Refers to the multitude of trees. I've had one of my trees caught on fire. A friend has had her fence set on fire. Another friend had their house burn down. This is not safe!

Doesn't JBLM provide enough loud noise??

Please stop the insanity. Or allow fireworks in large parking lot: schools, parks, and shopping centers. Why force them into neighborhoods?

Karen Whitney  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Maura Armstrong](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Restriction of Fireworks in Lakewood  
**Date:** Friday, May 29, 2020 5:41:10 PM

---

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Dear Lakewood City Council Members,  
Thank you for allowing public input on this issue of fireworks in the city of Lakewood.

It has been a tradition among our neighbors to celebrate the 4th of July with backyard BBQs and setting of legal fireworks for the past 20-30 years. As the years evolved and children matured and moved, we find that for the past five or so years, more people have been setting off loud, huge, and questionable fireworks. The fireworks are so large that when they shatter, they cause debris to fall among the rooftops, vehicle bodies and roofs, and lawns of the neighbors within the vicinity. Many of us have found residual sparks from the fireworks on our vehicles. It becomes a task to maintain the cleanliness of our property and pricey maintenance of the exterior of the vehicles.

If at all possible, it would be most beneficial to ban fireworks in the residential areas, due to the above situation. If, however, it is not an amenable situation to ban them, I support agree the limiting of setting LEGAL fireworks off only during the proposed times on 4th of July and New Year's Eve.

Thank you for this opportunity to give our input.

**From:** [netanya Leicht](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Regarding fireworks  
**Date:** Friday, May 29, 2020 9:05:48 AM

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If you must, then July 4th only. I would prefer they were banned except for professional displays. Every year homes are caught on fire by those too careless to exercise any good common sense, this should not be. For the care of homeowners and landlords, they should be banned. Then, there is the topic of those with PTSD ,to whom fireworks put them immediately back into a time and place they'd rather forget. Also, for the safety of pets, who every year are spooked by them, and then get lost, or by the hands of evil people,they are tortured with them, they should be banned. Every year I have to sedate one of my dogs as the sounds terrify her.

For these reasons, please at least restrict to one day if you will not ban them altogether.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone





May 29, 2020

The Honorable Don Anderson  
Mayor of Lakewood

Via e-mail: [DAnderson@cityoflakewood.us](mailto:DAnderson@cityoflakewood.us)

Dear Mayor Anderson,

On behalf of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) and our more than 6.5 million members and supporters worldwide, I'm writing with regard to the proposed amendment that would ban the discharge of fireworks on July 3 and 5. *We strongly and most respectfully urge you to adopt the fireworks limitations contained in the ban proposal and to consider also banning fireworks on July 4 and New Year's Eve in order to protect all of Lakewood's residents.*

Traditional fireworks bring with them devastating consequences. They sound like an all-out war not only to those suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder but also to dogs, cats, and wildlife. Terrified dogs climb or dig their way out of fenced-in yards as they frantically try to escape the explosions, resulting in increased stray-animal intakes at shelters. Many animals arrive with bloody paws or broken bones, some are never reunited with their families, and others are doomed to a worse fate.

Fireworks produce plumes of smoke laden with particles that are harmful to the respiratory systems of humans and other animals. Birds caught in or near fireworks displays often choke on the toxic residue. The California Coastal Commission banned the city of Gualala's display when, following a 2006 show, seabirds fled their nests, leaving their chicks vulnerable to predators. Most birds cannot see well in the dark, so this type of disruption can lead to injuries if they inadvertently crash into power lines, cars, buildings, trees, or each other. In one case, 5,000 birds died on a New Year's Eve in Arkansas after a fireworks display caused them to take flight and crash into objects such as houses and cars.

Such tragedies are not limited to animals: Many humans have been injured in fireworks accidents, and the displays can exacerbate asthma and other respiratory problems. Veterans and others suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder are also sensitive to and can be deeply disturbed by the noise of the explosives and the smell of the gunpowder. And on average, 180 people go to emergency rooms daily with fireworks-related injuries for an entire month around July 4.

As the Fourth of July holiday fast approaches, we hope you'll enact the proposed restrictions and consider extending them further by including a ban on igniting fireworks on Independence Day and December 31. Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to hearing from you.

Very truly yours,

Ingrid E. Newkirk  
President

PEOPLE FOR  
THE ETHICAL  
TREATMENT  
OF ANIMALS

Washington, D.C.

1536 16th St. N.W.  
Washington, DC 20036  
202-483-PETA

Los Angeles

2154 W. Sunset Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90026  
323-644-PETA

Norfolk

501 Front St.  
Norfolk, VA 23510  
757-622-PETA

Oakland

554 Grand Ave.  
Oakland, CA 94610  
510-763-PETA

[Info@peta.org](mailto:Info@peta.org)

[PETA.org](http://PETA.org)

Affiliates:

- PETA Asia
- PETA India
- PETA France
- PETA Australia
- PETA Germany
- PETA Netherlands
- PETA Foundation (157)

From: [lafaveshelley](#)  
To: [Briana Schumacher](#)  
Subject: Fireworks  
Date: Friday, May 29, 2020 9:49:04 AM

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Good morning.

My opinion..and I'll try not to stab anyone with it.

I worked in Mary Bridge children's as well as Tac General for many years in surgery..as well as MB ER..and also for a plastic surgery center in tacoma.

The devastation I have seen from fireworks alone..is staggering. Long term ..short term..forever. Fingers, faces..hands feet..eyes..pets..lives .

If you have ever participated in trying to put a kids hand back on..or had to remove a burnt out eye on a 5 year old, or picked out hundreds of pieces of shrapnel..out of a teen's face..that permanently tattooed their face with black freckles...

Houses burnt down with people in it.

I could soap box scream about alot of things..but this is one of my huge concerns..kids out in the line of fire. And irresponsible adults.

I understand a lot of people won't follow laws..anyway.

Why is it so cool to blow up everything... spend huge amounts to make a mess that no one wants to clean up...

Put yourself and family in real danger..your neighborhood.

Why.

I understand how huge a problem it is to enforce..how dangerous it is, And taxing to first responders.

Please...if it is possible, to limit the time and make the consequences to disobeying stiffer..

Especially with non adults being present..

Why a parent would allow a child they created.. blow themselves up...is beyond me.

I will now shut up.

Shelley LaFave  
Tillicum Wa

Sent from my Sprint Samsung Galaxy Phone.

**From:** [Steve Fry](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks ordinance  
**Date:** Friday, May 29, 2020 11:08:40 AM

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*- helpdesk@cityoflakewood.us ext. 4357*

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To all members of the Lakewood City Council,

As I understand it, the council is considering amending the fireworks ordinance to limit the discharge of fireworks to only July 4. While restricting the discharge to July 4 only would be a definite improvement, I do not understand why the council has not considering banning them altogether.

As I understand it, fireworks are banned by the cities of Tacoma, University Place, Fircrest, Steilacoom and Dupont. I cannot understand why the City of Lakewood does not implement a similar, common sense ban on fireworks. The reason they are banned in most municipalities is that they are dangerous to the users and they can cause property damage by starting fires.

We are lucky enough to have spectacular displays in Steilacoom, Tacoma, and (usually) at Cheney Stadium. As a Lakewood resident for thirty years, I believe there is absolutely no reason that Lakewood ought not completely ban fireworks as all of our neighboring municipalities have done.

I appreciate your time and consideration.

Stephen Fry  
6729 Phillips Rd SW  
Lakewood, 98498

**From:** [Bryan Bristow](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Proposal to Restrict Fireworks  
**Date:** Saturday, May 30, 2020 6:10:39 PM

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I support the proposal to further restrict use of Fireworks in Lakewood. I encourage the Council to ego further and BAN use and Sale fo Fireworks in Lakewood.

Lakewood has become a haven for Use of fireworks as surrounding communities have banned their use. In my opinion, Arguments related to enforcement are specious. Fear for Public Safety is real.

Bryan Bristow

**From:** [elainereed04@hotmail.com](mailto:elainereed04@hotmail.com)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed fireworks change  
**Date:** Saturday, May 30, 2020 5:46:47 AM

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I agree with proposal to limit fireworks in Lakewood to July 4 and New Years Eve starting 2021.

Elaine Reed  
8415 Berkeley Ave SW

**From:** [Kelly Riehl](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks Ban  
**Date:** Saturday, May 30, 2020 9:22:40 AM

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Good morning,

I support a complete ban on fireworks within Lakewood city limits; regardless of date, holiday etc. This includes the sale of fireworks as well as the discharge. The population is simply too dense for these "celebrations" to take place safely. Furthermore, those who choose to discharge fireworks rarely clean the debris that remains after, posing a threat to the community as well as the environment.

The risk of property damage & personal injury is just too high to allow the continued use of fireworks. There are a number of professional displays available for viewing as a safer alternative.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kelly Riehl  
6923 Phillips Rd SW



Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

**From:** [Kim Korsgren](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment for Councilmembers regarding Fireworks regulations - June 2020  
**Date:** Saturday, May 30, 2020 12:38:33 PM

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VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL: [BSCHUMACHER@CITYOFLAKEWOOD.US](mailto:BSCHUMACHER@CITYOFLAKEWOOD.US)

Ms. Briana Schumacher, City Clerk

City of Lakewood, Washington

6000 Main Street SW

Lakewood, WA 98499

RE: Lakewood Council's June 1, 2020 meeting regarding Fireworks municipal code regulations

Dear Councilmembers:

I am a Lakewood resident writing to urge the Council to make a broader stroke at the upcoming council meeting - in order to end the multitude of problems caused by fireworks and to ban fireworks altogether, once and for all, and to return our city to a preferred place to live in Pierce County! More citizens, more tax revenue? Yes! Although, I do appreciate the Council finally taking this step – to consider changes to our current rules - making a half step at this critical time of forward thinking, is a mistake.

My husband and I chose to relocate to Washington and specifically to live in Lakewood because it is beautiful and we found a house we loved. As a retired Army veteran, my husband and I are pleased and proud to live near Joint Base Lewis-McChord. We are homebodies and our yard is completely fenced. It is a safe place for our pets to go outside to lounge in the sun, lie in the grass, and to watch bugs and birds. We have several bird visitors in crows, stellar jays, hummingbirds, and sparrows that frequent our yard and we enjoy them. My husband and I like to sit outside to play backgammon and take in the wildlife, but this scene is completely shattered beginning in late June, day and night, continuing well past the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. The wildlife disappears for days, (who knows where they go) and our pets refuse to go outside.

Each summer, well in advance of the 4<sup>th</sup>, I must take my dog to the vet (an office visit expense) in order to purchase prescribed medications (prescriptions cost money) so that I can (drug my dog – which has proven necessary) for what is usually seven or more days of “warfare” that takes place in our normally peaceful neighborhood adjacent to Fort Steilacoom

Park. Each year, to prepare for the onslaught, I am proactive. My dog wears a Thunder Vest, takes his medication, I turn on soft music, I plug in a pheromone diffuser, and after all of these, my dog still cowers in the bedroom closet, trembling and panting for hours. Holding him does nothing to comfort him. I must use these methods every year because they are the only remedies I have. The laws, as they now stand, are always broken. The police do not enforce the laws as they are now written. How will reducing the number of days of legal fireworks take care of this shortfall? There are other cities that have taken the steps to outlaw fireworks, now it is Lakewood's turn. Could SumerFest be the city's 4<sup>th</sup> of July event?

Won't the Council members please consider the majority citizen opinion and step forward with leadership and confidence to consider how fireworks are not something Lakewood citizens need? Thank you for your consideration.

Kim Korsgren

8507 Haviland Ave SW

(253) 304-9079



**From:** [Linda Shehan](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks Ban  
**Date:** Saturday, May 30, 2020 1:38:19 PM

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Please ban fireworks sale stands in Lakewood also. Many items sold are too risky for the average home use. Wealthy people on the lakes can discharge over the water, but the rest of us are treated to a barrage of dangerous fire and noise raining down on us from the sky. Any item that shoots higher than a one story roof needs to be banned. Lakewood citizens shouldn't be terrorized by their neighbors. I love fireworks, but we just live too close together to safely enjoy the type currently sold. Local government should make the adult, common sense decision to ban fireworks as so many of the other Pierce County communities have. Why do we have to be the low class, no class city?

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

**From:** [Victoria Stanich](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Public hearing on fireworks in Lakewood  
**Date:** Saturday, May 30, 2020 12:55:56 PM  
**Importance:** High

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To the Lakewood City Council,

I am **for the ban on fireworks** in Lakewood. All surrounding cities have done so for safety reasons. I would like to hear reasons why the Lakewood City Council has refused to ban fireworks in our city in the past. I don't think that the City Council's view represents the views of the majority of Lakewood residents.

The reasons that I would like to see fireworks banned are:

- 1) the high risk of injury to individuals and to animals.
- 2) Pollution in the environment. Many people do not clean up the mess that they create with fireworks which ends up in our drains to Puget Sound. The air is filled with polluting smoke. Sound pollution - it's enough that Lakewood residents have to tolerate noise from neighboring JBLM.
- 3) Fireworks are a fire and safety hazard. Every year I see stray fireworks, some illegal, landing on rooftops in the neighborhood, wondering if they are still lit. They land in yards full of dry brush and grass, especially in July when most yards are very dry. Our fire department is stretched to put out fires and attend to fireworks-related injuries when they can be attending to other immediate emergencies.

There are plenty of professional fireworks displays to go to. I would like to attend one of these events but fear leaving home in case my house or yard catches fire. Please encourage people to leave fireworks to the professionals.

Sincerely,

Vicky Stanich

**From:** [William August](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Please Ban or at Least Limit Fireworks  
**Date:** Saturday, May 30, 2020 12:31:05 PM

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Dear Ms. Schumacher,

I know you are trying to strike the right balance between individual liberty and the common good. As with smoking versus the right to breathe clean air, the majority of Lakewood residents do not shoot off fireworks, and deserve freedom from noise, smoke and fire danger.

How many pet owners live in Lakewood? Every dog and cat owner dislikes the distress (and sometimes trauma) fireworks cause. We could handle one or two days a year, but in Lakewood, the bangs start a week before the 4th, and New Years, and happen at all hours. I can't count how many times I've been blasted awake at 2 AM by an inconsiderate neighbor.

Please, please, please stop the simulated wars in our neighborhoods by at least banning the SALE, with huge tents advertising "Military Grade Armaments" in Lakewood parking lots.

Thank you.

William August Selke  
102 Crestwood Drive SW  
Lakewood, 98498

**From:** [Bob Martin](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks  
**Date:** Sunday, May 31, 2020 6:59:28 PM

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Please don't change the days we can set off fireworks. I see no reason to change it.

Sent from my Sprint Samsung Galaxy S10.

**From:** [Sara Johnson](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks and other Feedback  
**Date:** Sunday, May 31, 2020 7:11:51 PM

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Good Evening,

I am writing in support of the suggested changes to tighten up the schedule for allowable fireworks within the City of Lakewood.

P.S. Thank you for your efforts to improve Gravelly Lake Drive.

I would like to see speed bumps installed or as previously requested - reduced speed on Langlow Street prior to reopening Veterans.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Johnson Family  
North Street off of Gravelly Lake

**From:** [Marcia AndersonWilber](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks  
**Date:** Sunday, May 31, 2020 4:35:59 PM

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We would be in favor of Lakewood banning firework sales and any use of fireworks in our city.

Marcia AndersonWilber

**From:** [Nicole Campbell](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks  
**Date:** Sunday, May 31, 2020 6:16:19 PM

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I'm weighing in on the new fireworks restrictions. I am all for tighter restrictions to control fireworks in Lakewood. I wish we could outlaw them completely. Every year since I was a child, the neighborhood I reside in has lit off fireworks for weeks at all hours of the night. It's a terrible time to live here. We get little sleep and worry about fires when there is little rain. On the night of the 4th we soak our yard because it's like a war zone around us. Many people have little regard for their neighbors. One year a fireworks landed in my friend's car. A lit firework. Luckily we were near by and saw it. I dread the 4th of July because people do not care about others. We often try to leave town before the 4th because it is such a stressful time in Lakewood. If we leave we hire someone to spray our yard and around our house on the 4th. We pray every year that Lakewood will change their laws. It's a strong argument to relocate to Steilacoom because they have much better firework laws.

My input is to please, please, please tighten the fireworks laws. Lakewood could become a nice City if we could quit tolerating so much selfish and wild behavior. My mother and dust both live nearby and have always felt the same way. Thank you for your consideration. Let's make Lakewood a great place to live.

Nicole Houston  
9003 Wildwood Ave SW  
Lakewood, Wa 98498

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [+12532289965@tmomail.net](mailto:+12532289965@tmomail.net)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Date:** Monday, June 1, 2020 2:20:03 PM  
**Attachments:** [text\\_1591046113991.txt](#)

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I want to have my voice heard about the fireworks issue. My name is Lauri Homestead, and my address is 9543 Dekoven Dr SW. I Do NOT approve of any additional fireworks restrictions in Lakewood. There are already restrictions in place. Also, I want to know if Lakewood is ever going to fix Mt. Tacoma Drive from Motor Ave to the bridge?

.....

**T-Mobile**

This message was sent to you by a T-Mobile wireless phone.



**From:** [Jason Trout](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** The Council should postpone decision  
**Date:** Monday, June 1, 2020 4:31:29 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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I am the Regional Manager for TNT FIREWORKS in the State of Washington. TNT is the largest wholesaler of Washington legal fireworks in the state of Washington. I am not writing to discourage the council from taking any action, I am writing to postpone the decision. The nonprofit groups that sell fireworks as fundraisers are barely even able to organize to meet. The nonprofits in your community cannot meet publicly to organize a response. With the pandemic we are currently experiencing, and the fact that the effect of the decision will not take place until 2021 at the earliest, not allowing a public hearing at the very least is unfair and not providing the public due process to publicly speak about something seems incredibly subversive. Seems like there are many more important things to be discussing rather than something that impacts one day a year and will not have any impact on this year at all. Thank you for your time.

*Jason Trout*

**Regional Manager**

American Promotional Events Inc  
dba TNT FIREWORKS  
O:503-653-9655  
O:253-922-0800  
C:503-545-7948



**From:** [Ken Witkoe](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks  
**Date:** Monday, June 1, 2020 5:41:51 PM

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Dear City Council,

After reading the current recommendations for "further restrictions" on fireworks in Lakewood, I have a couple of questions.

As you are all aware, the PSAC recommended "no change" to the current fireworks city code - for various reasons that you have already articulated in the announcement.

I would like to know how the city came to the "new" recommendation of "further restrictions"?

I would also like to know if the city has considered how the further restrictions will be enforced.

Next, our PSAC members also recommended the city look into some sort of public education on the use and restrictions of fireworks. Is that part of the city's plans?

For the record, I support a total ban, but because of the aforementioned issues, we (I) felt that a ban would be futile and only create more problems than it would be worth.

Thank you,  
Ken Witkoe

**From:** [Kevin Campbell](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks hearing  
**Date:** Monday, June 1, 2020 8:50:53 AM

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To who it may concern,

The proposed changes further limiting Fireworks use in the City of Lakewood are a step in the right direction, however a very small one. We hear illegal fireworks being used throughout the year near Alameda Ave and Washington. There seems to be little or no enforcement of the current regulations in the city, how will this restriction substantially change the constant nuisance and danger of illegal fireworks without active enforcement?

I recommend a ban on all private use fireworks and active civil enforcement similar to code enforcement activities. If a resident makes a complaint it should be investigated and the accused persons or property owner should have to take affirmative actions to ensure the city of no further violations or face fines or forfeitures.

Thank you,

Kevin Campbell  
Lakewood, WA

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Mary Brasseaux](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks  
**Date:** Monday, June 1, 2020 2:59:21 AM

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Briana,

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the proposed changes to the law regarding the use of personal fireworks in the City of Lakewood.

I moved to Lakewood in October 2013 and was surprised to find out in July 2014 that the personal use of fireworks is allowed for days. It had been years since I lived somewhere where people were allowed to use fireworks for such a long period of time.

I enjoy watching fireworks; however, I don't believe that people should be allowed to use them for 12 hours a day for 3 days. My preference would be that the personal use of fireworks be banned as is the law in several area communities - for example Lacey, Steilacoom, Tacoma, Firwood, and JBLM. If not banned then limited to the 4th of July ( University Place and Puyallup) If the use of personal fireworks are continued to be allowed, I also believe the hours should be reduced -- you can not see them during the day light hours. I think what many people are using during the daylight hours are "fireworks" that make loud noises only and do not have a beautiful display.

I realize that the input I provided above is not what is being considered. I assume that the rationale is that it more palatable to make small changes at a time rather than making bigger changes. I don't agree with that concept; however any reduction in days/hours would be better than what is currently allowed. Although, I firmly believe that fireworks should only be presented by the City/County/Joint Base.

When John Adams said that he hoped the anniversary of our independence would be marked for years to come by guns/bonfires/illuminations he was 1) referring to the 4th of July only --not the 3rd or the 5th or any other days and 2) times/communities have significantly changed since he made that comment. If people started using guns to celebrate in 2020, chaos would occur, as well as injuries and deaths.

I have read some of the comments made about the current proposal and therefore realize that my comments may not be new; however I am going to include them.

1) I do not believe that limiting the use or banning the use of personal fireworks affect our freedom. Many of member of my family served in the military during WWII --they were fighting for our freedom - to keep us from being ruled by fanatics from Germany and Japan --not for our right to use fireworks. My husband was in in the Air Force and served two terms of duty in Viet Nam - not so people can use fireworks.

Freedom requires us to make the best choices for the good of the whole, not the individual. ( Years ago I had a sports car --I would have enjoyed driving it at 100 MPH; however I did not have the freedom to do so,as it may have been dangerous to others and to self if I had done so. That is why we have laws --to protect others and ourself.)

2] The noise from the fireworks/noise makers is harmful to dogs and to some people. My dog is frightened by the noise which requires medical care. Yes, if the City/County/Joint Base provides a firework display there is noise; however I know what day and time and can provide the needed care/attention my dog needs. I can NOT keep him medicated for 12+ hours for several days in a row. I have Stage IV cancer; one of the symptoms I experience at times is excruciating headaches; I can, again , take the necessary action to minimize the pain when I know the day and time of the fireworks display; however not non-stop for days at a time. ( I know there are thousands of people in our community who have dogs who react as my dog does and that there are also hundreds. perhaps thousands of people who have health problems that are affected by the noise.) There are thousands of people in our community who work various shifts and need their sleep; which is difficult to get if their is on-going noise for hours for several days.

3) There is a risk of injury and/or death when fireworks are used by people who are not trained in the proper use. Not only does this affect the individual and his/her family/friends; it affects the community as a whole, as resources are used that often times are limited and/or the person doesn't have the funds to pay for the resources used. I spent 30+ years in health care. In those communities where the personal use of fireworks were allowed, we had to add additional staffing in our emergency departments to care for the injuries of those who made stupid mistakes. And often these same individual didn't have the resources to pay for the care they received.

4} There is a risk of fires -often times to property of others; not the property of the individual using the fireworks.

5) Fireworks are harmful to nature and the environment. Yes, this is true of the firework displays offered by the City, etc. However again, in those instances, it is controlled and for a limited time. Are the "containers/packaging" that fireworks come in recyclable? Do the people who "shoot" the fireworks go in the neighborhood and pick up the trash they have caused to exist? Based upon what I have found in my driveway and on my property in the past, my response is, "no."

6) I have read comments on social media that there shouldn't be any changes to the current law as it is not being enforced so why make it stricter if the new law won't be enforced. I don't agree with that reasoning. However, I do believe that whether the law stays the same or is amended that it needs to be enforced. I also understand that with COVID19, that unbudgeted expenses has occurred and that adding additional staffing to enforce this type of law may not be a priority. However, it needs to be enforced. Perhaps, it is enforced in two or three neighborhoods this year --as the word spreads that it is enforced, some people may decide not to shoot fireworks or may do so within the requirements of the law.

Thank you for making it easy/convenient to provide comments.

Mary T. Brasseaux

**From:** [P. Rusnak](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks Ordinance  
**Date:** Monday, June 1, 2020 12:46:39 PM

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June 1, 2020

Dear Council Members:

I am a resident of Lakewood and wanted to take a moment to share my thoughts on changes to the current ordinance regarding the use of fireworks to celebrate Independence Day and New Year's Eve. Fireworks present a multiple of issues when used by private citizens including but not limited to the following:

**The risk of brush fires:** We are fortunate to live in a community with many heavily treed neighborhoods and parks. Tree debris and dry grass provides kindle for any stray firework.

**Pollution:** (water and air) There have been an increase in dumped yard debris, fuel and soil into our local lakes. At the simplest level, do we want to add firework litter to the list? At times the smell of smoke is so strong that I need to keep my windows to my home closed. Scientific data regarding the damage to our water, air quality and health is well documented.

**Family pets and wildlife:** Large flashes of light, smoke and very loud noises are not natural sounds for any animal. The sounds and smells signal danger. Many domestic animals (especially dogs) have been known to break through windows and doors to escape from the sound. Running loose they are at risk of being hit by a car or becoming so disoriented they can not find their way back home.

Do we need multiple days of fireworks in July? New Years? I think not and I believe the majority of residents in Lakewood would support a full ban on fireworks. Fireworks in

residential and business areas have become a danger and a nuisance. Changes to our ordinances need to be made that will be easier on our environment, wildlife and family pets.

Respectfully,

Patty Rusnak



**From:** [Rikki McGee](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Lakewood Fireworks Policy  
**Date:** Monday, June 1, 2020 8:33:02 AM

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I encourage city Council to amend the current policy of allowing fireworks between 11 a.m. and 11 p.m. on July 3, 4 and 5 and New Year's Eve to only the 4th of July and New Year's Eve. I would prefer they were banned completely but this does not appear to be a consideration. My reasons are the following.

1. Fireworks are sources of pollution, see [Festive Fireworks Create Harmful Pall of Pollution](#) and [Are Fireworks Harming your Health?](#) As local air quality diminishes, particularly given the increase of summer fires which impact many citizens, adding to air pollution for a celebratory activity is misplaced.
2. Fireworks can trigger stress and PTSD. Given our proximity to JBLM and the many active and retired military who live in Lakewood, it is appropriate to limit the use of fireworks. [See coping with PTSD during Fireworks Season.](#)
3. Fireworks, when used irresponsibly, can cause injury to individuals and property. See [US Consumer Information Fireworks](#). 9,000 people were treated for firework injuries in 2019. From [the National Fire Protection Association](#), *"Fireworks start an average of 18,500 fires per year, including 1,300 structure fires, 300 vehicle fires, and 16,900 outside and other fires. These fires caused an average of three deaths, 40 civilian injuries, and an average of \$43 million in direct property damage."*

Thank you for sharing my concerns.

--

Rikki (Patricia) McGee

*Live as if you would die tomorrow, learn as if you would live forever. (Gandhi)*

[drpmcgee@gmail.com](mailto:drpmcgee@gmail.com)

512.289.4464

**From:** [Heidi Wachter](#)  
**To:** [Barb Fant](#)  
**Cc:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Fireworks in Lakewood, WA/June 3, 2020  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 3, 2020 4:57:17 PM

---

Ms. Fant,

Thank you for taking the time to write to the City again. I do not know about your previous correspondence, but this is now included, by way of copy to the City Clerk, with other input received by the City on this issue. The public hearing has been continued in order to hold it in person and provide as much opportunity for input as possible. Everything collected to date and going forward will be provided to the City Council.

Heidi Wachter

---

**From:** Barb Fant [mailto:barann54@comcast.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 3, 2020 2:52 PM  
**To:** Heidi Wachter <HWachter@cityoflakewood.us>  
**Subject:** Fireworks in Lakewood, WA/June 3, 2020

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- [helpdesk@cityoflakewood.us](mailto:helpdesk@cityoflakewood.us) ext. 4357

**I just noticed in Suburban Times about a meeting on June 1<sup>st</sup> on Fireworks in Lakewood.**

**I still wanted to contact someone, appropriate, about this. I have sent two letters, one a year about fireworks in Lakewood AND NEVER HAD A RESPONSE from either letter.**

**The information furnished in the Suburban Times is about the meeting June 1<sup>st</sup> and about the dates and hours for fireworks to be allowed.**

**I wrote about NOT HAVING them at all. I know it's been fun for "most" families for years but there have been fires, damages, emergencies, Steilacoom and Tacoma doesn't have them so OF COURSE THE PEOPLE COME TO OUR AREA TO SHOOT THEM. I spent being up till midnight as all around me the rockets are landing in my yard...don't want a fire started let alone the noise which scares the dogs terribly, some getting lost.**

Everyone can watch them on the TV from other cities.  
Don't know if you will read all of this.  
Don't know if anyone making decisions will see this.  
Wish the request would be considered  
Thank you.

Barbara Fant

[Barann54@comcast.net](mailto:Barann54@comcast.net)

**From:** [Heidi Wachter](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Fireworks in Lakewood, WA/June 3, 2020  
**Date:** Friday, June 5, 2020 2:04:37 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

---

More for the file.

Thanks!

Heidi

---

**From:** Barb Fant [mailto:barann54@comcast.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 3, 2020 7:53 PM  
**To:** Heidi Wachter <HWachter@cityoflakewood.us>  
**Subject:** RE: Fireworks in Lakewood, WA/June 3, 2020

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**Thanks so much for writing Heidi. Appreciate any consideration given to my request. I know people like fireworks.....I'm 83 and had fun all the years living here since 1968 but feel it is so "chancy" having them for the reasons I mentioned.**

**Even if you allow them, maybe ONLY on the 4<sup>th</sup>.**

**Thanks again for writing and good luck on the decision.**

---

**From:** [Heidi Wachter](#)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 3, 2020 4:57 PM  
**To:** [Barb Fant](#)  
**Cc:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Fireworks in Lakewood, WA/June 3, 2020

Ms. Fant,

Thank you for taking the time to write to the City again. I do not know about your previous correspondence, but this is now included, by way of copy to the City Clerk, with other input received by the City on this issue. The public hearing has been continued in order to hold it in person and provide as much opportunity for input as possible. Everything collected to date and going forward

will be provided to the City Council.

Heidi Wachter

---

**From:** Barb Fant [<mailto:barann54@comcast.net>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 3, 2020 2:52 PM  
**To:** Heidi Wachter <[HWachter@cityoflakewood.us](mailto:HWachter@cityoflakewood.us)>  
**Subject:** Fireworks in Lakewood, WA/June 3, 2020

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**I just noticed in Suburban Times about a meeting on June 1<sup>st</sup> on Fireworks in Lakewood.**

**I still wanted to contact someone, appropriate, about this. I have sent two letters, one a year about fireworks in Lakewood AND NEVER HAD A RESPONSE from either letter.**

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**I wrote about NOT HAVING them at all. I know it's been fun for "most" families for years but there have been fires, damages, emergencies, Steilacoom and Tacoma doesn't have them so OF COURSE THE PEOPLE COME TO OUR AREA TO SHOOT THEM. I spent being up till midnight as all around me the rockets are landing in my yard...don't want a fire started let alone the noise which scares the dogs terribly, some getting lost.**

**Everyone can watch them on the TV from other cities.**

**Don't know if you will read all of this.**

**Don't know if anyone making decisions will see this.**

**Wish the request would be considered**

**Thank you.**

**Barbara Fant**

**[Barann54@comcast.net](mailto:Barann54@comcast.net)**

**From:** [Andrea Bess](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks  
**Date:** Sunday, June 14, 2020 4:18:50 AM

---

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I would really appreciate limiting fireworks to 1/1 and 7/4. I would also like consideration for types of fireworks allowed in the city limits. Ive lived here and paid taxes for more than twenty years. My neighbors are using larger and louder “fireworks” than ever. It’s disruptive and causes severe anxiety and stress for many. We are right near the VA hospital where many go for PTSD treatment and yet our community is not considerate related to veterans traumatic experiences Of war. It’s fun for some but brings back life threatening flashbacks for others. Is it necessary to set off “Fireworks” that shake my foundation and rattle my home? I think it has gotten excessive.

Additionally, the trash left over from this revelry is also frustrating. It’s left in the streets after they finish. People don’t clean up when they’re done. I have to water my yard all evening to make sure whatever flies into my yard doesn’t set fire. However, if it lands in my new \$20,000 roof, my home is up in smoke!

So many reasons to ban fireworks.

Homeowner/taxpayer,

Andrea Bess  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Ellen Gallinatti](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks  
**Date:** Sunday, June 14, 2020 7:21:34 AM

---

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Hello Ms. Schumacher,

Thank you for taking input regarding fireworks from residents. Lakewood is unlike any place I have ever lived. Fireworks are lit randomly throughout the year and for approximately 2 weeks around the July 4 holiday. I am as patriotic as anyone but the fireworks today seem bigger and significantly louder than they ones purchased by the public in the past. The 2 weeks over July 4 are traumatic for our animals when random bombs go off without warning. My animals have to be sedated for days on end. I would like to leave town over this period but I wonder if my property could start on fire so I stay and endure.

Please consider limiting fireworks or even better eliminating them altogether.

Respectfully,  
Ellen Gallinatti  
Steilacoom Lake

**From:** [David Wood](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Fireworks Changes  
**Date:** Thursday, June 18, 2020 3:14:46 PM

---

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Thanks Briana. Here's a revised version:

As a resident of Lakewood, I'm writing to oppose the suggested changes in fireworks regulations.

I'm generally in favor of safety-based regulations. I usually have no problem with such rules -- I am not in any way an anti-regulation person. However, I think fireworks need special consideration because of their cultural significance to so many people.

The US (and Washington State) is already one of the most restrictive places in the western world when it comes to use of fireworks. Many countries and states have little to no restrictions on fireworks in terms of both type or date. This is a freedom many others enjoy, but which is heavily restricted in the "land of the free".

I am a US citizen, originating in the UK. In the UK, little to no restrictions on fireworks exist at all, and education campaigns in schools are used effectively to reduce harm from fireworks. In my culture, we celebrate with fireworks on November 5th (Guy Fawkes Night). This cultural practice is one I already am barred from participating in here, which is very upsetting to me. It's always hard to adapt to a new country, but to lose access to British traditions makes it even harder to feel at home. In my view, ex-pats should be able to pass these traditions down to their children.

The compromise that we've reached in our family is to celebrate Guy Fawkes Night on July 3rd. We can then celebrate July 4th like everyone else. However, if fireworks are further restricted, there will be literally no days that aren't already claimed by other celebrations.

Additionally, since my wife is a healthcare worker, she often has to work on July 4th. That means that around 50% of years she will have **zero** days to be able to even celebrate July 4th with fireworks. Such a rule would be especially unfair to many essential workers that we rely on. In light of all the hard work they're doing to fight COVID-19, I think they should be able to relax and enjoy celebrating Independence Day as well.

Please do not adopt this change.

Thanks for reading,

David



**From:** [John Terrasi III](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Firworks  
**Date:** Saturday, June 20, 2020 9:27:15 PM

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Every night ... Boom... Pop... All night. It keeps us up. We love fireworks but Lakewood sounds like a war zone for about two months a year. It's extremely annoying. Changing the law will do nothing, people just constantly shoot them off. NON STOP EVERY SINGLE NIGHT. so sick of reading neighbors on next door squabble about this. Fireworks are illegal yet you'd think they were LEGAL by the sounds of it. People shoot them off without restraint or worry of getting in trouble.

<https://thesubtimes.com/2020/05/23/lakewood-city-council-reviews-fireworks-regulations/>

**From:** [Cheryl Liotta](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks Restriction  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 24, 2020 6:43:56 AM

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I am for restricting fireworks to July 4 and New Years only in Lakewood. I hope people will abide by this if this is what is decided.

**From:** [Jan West](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks  
**Date:** Saturday, June 27, 2020 1:33:56 PM

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I support the change to limit fireworks to just the 4th of July. I have two pets that are extremely noisy sensitive which impacts our entire family. Thank you for considering making this change!

Janet West  
11821 Nyanza Rd. SW  
Sent from Jan West's iPad

**From:** [Janet Deakle](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** fireworks  
**Date:** Monday, June 29, 2020 1:17:03 PM

---

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The last few evenings there has been people shooting off fireworks, and they sound like some big stuff. Every year I endure these things, my two cats are a mess and hard to console, and I always wonder if my house is going to catch on fire. Several years ago, a neighbor's house caught on fire and burned down from fireworks. That year the trees were very dry and we were all out in our yards with hoses wetting down dry vegetation. There is a widespread noncompliance with what type of fireworks is legal, and when they can be used. Every year someone around Steilacoom lake fires them off, one week before the 4th. I live on Lenox Ave SW off of Hipkins road. Several people south of me also shoot off large loud fireworks. Lakewood is growing in population, and really it is not safe to have everyone "enjoying" fireworks. Every year dogs are scared and get loose. I don't care how much money that the city takes in from the firework stands, safety should outweigh money. I will not waste the time of the police, that is not what their job is. Talking to these people is definitely out of the question. The one solution for me is behavior modification, if you can't comply with the rules then you don't get to play with them.

*Janet Deakle*

**From:** [joleneluvschris](#)  
**To:** [Info](#)  
**Subject:** Ban fireworks  
**Date:** Sunday, June 28, 2020 6:23:36 PM

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To Who ever can help,

Is there a way they can ban fireworks here in the city of Lakewood?

Reason: Here we are a week before the 4th and for the past 2 weeks fireworks have been going off and they will continue to go for an additional week after. Fireworks ends around 3-4am in the morning.

Scares the crap out of my pups and when I have my nieces over it upsets them to where they can't sleep.

Thank you for reading

Jolene Fisher-Mueller

Sent from Samsung tablet.

Briana Schumacher  
City Clerk City of Lakewood  
6000 Main Street SW  
Lakewood, WA 98499

Sent via email to [bschumacher@cityoflakewood.us](mailto:bschumacher@cityoflakewood.us)

Ms. Schumacher and Lakewood City Council Members:

As a resident of the City of Lakewood for 55 years, I write in strong support of your proposed amendments to Chapter 8.68 of the Lakewood Municipal Code, Fireworks. In fact, I urge you to go further and ban the sale and discharge of fireworks during the 4th of July.

For my family, the constant barrage of noise is so bad that we are forced to take time off work and travel to a location in Eastern Washington that bans fireworks. The blasts have already started this year around the 25<sup>th</sup> of June and continue late into the night; and more often than not, the next day is a workday (as we are public service employees), forcing us to take time off because we are not able to sleep (sometimes until 300 am). We already have firework debris on our roof that we just had replaced last year (at a cost of \$20,000).

Although we would like to report the usage of fireworks before the required times and the use of illegal fireworks, we know that Lakewood Police have more pressing matters to handle. Since we are public service employees as well, we fear neighbors will retaliate if we do mention something to them or call the police.

Some people are concerned that the non-profits who sale fireworks won't be getting money for their cause. I rarely see people at the "safe" fireworks stands. Most of the fireworks that are being deployed are the 'illegal' fireworks that are sold on reservations.

In closing, I would hope that you would affirm the proposed changes to the City Code that would restrict when fireworks can be discharged within the city limits to July 4th and New Year's Eve to take effect in 2021. As I mentioned earlier, I would like fireworks to be banned during all times in the City of Lakewood. These proposed changes are a good start. However, I will continue to hope fireworks will be completely banned. The danger to life and property, the distress of our veterans afflicted with PTSD, the stress inflicted on animals, fires, and the trash that litters the streets and yards (which I end up picking up) are just some of my major concerns.

Thank you for your time and the opportunity to comment.

Ruth Ann Allen

**From:** [susan m. fine](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks restriction  
**Date:** Friday, July 3, 2020 3:05:52 PM

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---

I would like to add my voice emphatically to those who support restricting fireworks to the Fourth of July and New Year's Eve. In addition to the threat to persons and property, fireworks are a form of torture for people who are sensitive to loud noises. Veterans suffering from PTSD are adversely affected by the ordinance -type noise . Many pets are terrified by the horrendous racket. People with respiratory problems can't go outside for days due to the saturation of the atmosphere with gunpowder. The litter is everywhere.

It is difficult to pin down the address of the offenders to give to the police. Even if the restriction passes, there will still be numerous and consistent violators. But it will be on the books, and every little bit helps.

Thank you for your attention

Susan M. James

**From:** [mary elaine lyle jackman](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Future Fireworks Regulations  
**Date:** Saturday, July 4, 2020 12:16:18 PM

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I strongly agree with changing the current Fireworks Regulations to only allow them to be used on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and New Years Eve (December 31<sup>st</sup>).

Our family always does a small fireworks display in our driveway on the 4<sup>th</sup>; using only those that will be safe (small fountains with less noise) with a hose running and at the ready, and a metal garbage can to put the used ones in.

I would really hate to not be able to continue this tradition because of the foolish ones. We also normally stop by 11pm at the latest.

I hope narrowing the window of opportunity will also limit the amount of problems allowing fireworks causes.

I think you will have problems enforcing them– but at least this does allow for punitive action for the days outside of the window.

I suppose you could also limit sales of fireworks to the day they are allowed, but that might cause an upswing of buying un-regulated fireworks.

M. Elaine Lyle  
10416 Hill Terrace SW  
Lakewood WA 98498  
253-582-2405



**From:** [Janet](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Limiting Fireworks  
**Date:** Saturday, July 4, 2020 9:47:38 PM

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I would like to express my approval of limiting fireworks as proposed for discussion at the council meeting on July 20.

Our neighbors have had the police called almost annually as they won't stop at night until they are told to by law enforcement. One year they started a neighbors shrubbery on fire that is up against her garage.

We have had our family here and a special needs grandson is terrified when the illegal fireworks are set off, they sound like bombs. We should not have to stay inside our own homes on beautiful days and evenings.

The people shooting these noisemakers don't think of persons with PTSD or the animals that are unable to be consoled.

Please stop these unnecessary fireworks when there are public shows available.

Thank you for considering this proposal and please vote to limit fireworks in neighborhoods in the most strict way that you can.

Janet Groefsema  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [jill ROGERS](#)  
**To:** [Info](#)  
**Subject:** FIREWORKS  
**Date:** Saturday, July 4, 2020 9:39:36 AM

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*- helpdesk@cityoflakewood.us ext. 4357*

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When are you going to get real about the fireworks?

I live in a senior community, and last night they were still going off at 12 am, and now they are starting up again at 9:30 am. Just bang after bang.

Tacoma has banned fireworks for years. What is it going to take for Lakewood to get on the ball and ban them too.??

I dread July 4th. because of the noise. No use going to bed, because you can't sleep. I have a/c therefore my windows are shut, but it is still deafening.

I know you are having a meeting about this. Please forward this to the appropriate person.

I live on 112th st. Used to be called SHAG, but now named Lakewood Meadows.

The police do absolutely nothing about this situation.

The people in this area start a week before, with the fireworks, and keep going after July 4th.

Can't wait for July 4th to be over with.

Jill Rogers  
253-588-9904

**From:** [keith.a.rollins](#)  
**To:** [Info](#)  
**Subject:** 4th of July  
**Date:** Saturday, July 4, 2020 8:35:02 PM

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To whom it may concern,

One simple question.

When is enough enough?

Since many cannot abide by the laws within our community when it comes to fireworks, maybe the time has come to stop the madness, why must the residents and animals be terrorized every year. The time has come to follow what some of our neighbor cities have done and ban fireworks by the average homeowner and leave this to the professionals.

While this will fall on deaf ears, only one day can there finally be a person to stop the insanity.

A hopeful Lakewood resident

Mr. Keith Rollins

Sent from Samsung tablet.

**From:** [Regina Collins](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks  
**Date:** Saturday, July 4, 2020 10:39:36 PM

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---

I would propose banning all fireworks. They are extremely stressful for people with ptsd and pets. Can smell the smoke which doesn't help people with breathing problems. Unable to sleep as it is way too loud-sounds like we are in a war zone. Stop the selling of fireworks by imposing a large fine if caught buying or selling.

Thank you

**From:** [Heidi Wachter](#)  
**To:** [Bill and Allison Roberts](#)  
**Cc:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Fireworks  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 7, 2020 9:58:08 AM

---

Hello Mr. Roberts,

Fireworks are currently under consideration by the City Council. The catch is that state law requires a year delay before any adopted ban can take effect, assuming a ban were adopted. The Council asked to consider this in June, which allowed a year before July 2021. However, the Council is committed to holding public hearings due to the volume of input they receive on this topic each year. Due to COVID, the public hearings were not possible in June. Now that it's looking like it may be a while before public hearings are a possibility, Council has begun taking telephone input during public comment and may hold the public hearing that way. In any event, if a ban is adopted it will not take effect until after July 2021.

The Council remains interested in all public input on this issue. As recently as last night at the Council meeting Council members directed that all input be made part of the record regarding fireworks. Your email will be included and considered. I have copied the City Clerk to include your email.

Thank you for speaking up.

Heidi

---

**From:** Bill and Allison Roberts [mailto:ROBERTS98498@msn.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 6, 2020 11:38 PM  
**To:** Heidi Wachter <HWachter@cityoflakewood.us>  
**Subject:** Fireworks

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Dear Ms. Wachter,

After enduring yet another two and a half weeks of the annual 4th of July fireworks celebration, (mostly illegal fireworks), exploding around my home, terrorizing my dog, presenting fire hazards to my property and driving my wife and myself to considering selling our house and leaving this city, I've decided to see what the process is to getting fireworks legally banned in Lakewood. We have lived here for 15 years putting up with what was a nuisance 15 years ago and is now a major problem. It has gotten worse every year. Who should better know what that process is to make the sale, possession and use of all fireworks

in this city, but you. I'm sure you are very busy, but when you can spare the time, will you please let me know what I have to do to get a total fireworks law banning fireworks in place in this city.

Thank you in advance for your expeditious reply,

Bill Roberts  
10020 Woodlawn Pl. SW  
Lakewood, WA 98498  
(253)N691-6862

**From:** [n.bd](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Restricted use of legal fireworks  
**Date:** Monday, July 6, 2020 7:45:15 PM

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Dear Ms. Schumacher, I would like to provide my support for a proposed change to restrict the use of legal fireworks. The current proposal is to limit their use to July 4th, 11am to 11pm. A timing restriction should also apply to December 31/January 1. I am not opposed to fireworks per se, but I am opposed to the noise and stress that is caused by their use.

I live near Steilacoom Lake. It is very popular for the lakeside residents to use fireworks on these holidays in addition to other residents in the area.

Pets and a neighbor that has post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) suffer with the loud noise created by the legal (and possibly illegal) fireworks. Fireworks started several days before July 4th. On July 4th, they occurred non-stop for several hours and I was still hearing fireworks at 2 am on July 5.

I understand the desire to see fireworks on these holidays, but the stress they cause needs to be mitigated. One way is to reduce the stress and anxiety caused is to limit the duration of the fireworks. Another is to further limit the type of fireworks that can be used within the city limits.

The City also needs to address the enforcement of illegal firework discharges. If residents are currently not abiding by the City regulations that limit fireworks to July 3rd through 5th, the effectiveness of more restrictive legislation is unclear.

Thank you for consideration of my comments.

Sincerely, Nancy Brennan-Dubbs

**From:** [Heidi Wachter](#)  
**To:** [Bill and Allison Roberts](#)  
**Cc:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Fireworks  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 7, 2020 3:57:11 PM

---

Mr. Roberts,

Fireworks are legal in the state, so in order to ban them, the City would have to take the affirmative legislative step of adopting a ban. The City has passed local law around fireworks in the past, but not an outright ban. I do not know what led to those particular votes at the time; it has been a few years.

We are currently set for a public hearing (no promises as to what that means – it will afford live testimony if conditions allow) on September 8 and the Council specifically wants all input, in whatever form, provided to them before they take action.

Thank you for your patience with the process.

Heidi

---

**From:** Bill and Allison Roberts [mailto:roberts98498@msn.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 7, 2020 3:48 PM  
**To:** Heidi Wachter <HWachter@cityoflakewood.us>  
**Subject:** Re: Fireworks

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Hello Ms. Wachter,

Thank you for your expeditious reply to my "Fireworks" letter. I did have an error in the 4th sentence as it should have read ... all fireworks in this city ***illegal***, but you. Do you happen to know how fireworks became legal in this city in the first place? That would be an interesting fact to have.

Thanks again for your time and educated response.

Bill Roberts

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**From:** Heidi Wachter <[HWachter@cityoflakewood.us](mailto:HWachter@cityoflakewood.us)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 7, 2020 9:58 AM  
**To:** Bill and Allison Roberts <[ROBERTS98498@msn.com](mailto:ROBERTS98498@msn.com)>



**Cc:** Briana Schumacher <[BSchumacher@cityoflakewood.us](mailto:BSchumacher@cityoflakewood.us)>

**Subject:** RE: Fireworks

Hello Mr. Roberts,

Fireworks are currently under consideration by the City Council. The catch is that state law requires a year delay before any adopted ban can take effect, assuming a ban were adopted. The Council asked to consider this in June, which allowed a year before July 2021. However, the Council is committed to holding public hearings due to the volume of input they receive on this topic each year. Due to COVID, the public hearings were not possible in June. Now that it's looking like it may be a while before public hearings are a possibility, Council has begun taking telephone input during public comment and may hold the public hearing that way. In any event, if a ban is adopted it will not take effect until after July 2021.

The Council remains interested in all public input on this issue. As recently as last night at the Council meeting Council members directed that all input be made part of the record regarding fireworks. Your email will be included and considered. I have copied the City Clerk to include your email.

Thank you for speaking up.

Heidi

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**From:** Bill and Allison Roberts [<mailto:ROBERTS98498@msn.com>]

**Sent:** Monday, July 6, 2020 11:38 PM

**To:** Heidi Wachter <[HWachter@cityoflakewood.us](mailto:HWachter@cityoflakewood.us)>

**Subject:** Fireworks

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- [helpdesk@cityoflakewood.us](mailto:helpdesk@cityoflakewood.us) ext. 4357

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Dear Ms. Wachter,

After enduring yet another two and a half weeks of the annual 4th of July fireworks celebration, (mostly illegal fireworks), exploding around my home, terrorizing my dog, presenting fire hazards to my property and driving my wife and myself to considering selling our house and leaving this city, I've decided to see what the process is to getting fireworks legally banned in Lakewood. We have lived here for 15 years putting up with what was a nuisance 15 years ago and is now a major problem. It has gotten worse every year. Who should better know what that process is to make the sale, possession and use of all fireworks in this city, but you. I'm sure you are very busy, but when you can spare the time, will you please let me know what I have to do to get a total fireworks law banning fireworks in place in

this city.

Thank you in advance for your expeditious reply,

Bill Roberts  
10020 Woodlawn Pl. SW  
Lakewood, WA 98498  
(253)N691-6862

From: [Kathy Rades](#)  
To: [Briana Schumacher](#)  
Date: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 2:05:35 PM

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*- helpdesk@cityoflakewood.us ext. 4357*

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Dear Lakewood City Council,

Since I'm unable to attend the July 20th council meeting, I'm writing about my concern of the excessive use of fireworks in our city. I strongly recommend restricting the use of legal fireworks to only one day, the 4th of July from 11am to 11pm.

My reasons center around respect:  
for the many war veterans living here with PTSD;  
for the senior citizens with health issues;  
for pets and wildlife abundant here;  
for our galant police and firefighters who wrestle with lawlessness and disregard for property in the use of illegal explosives;  
for one another as neighbors trying to enjoy the 4th without altercation.

This excessive use of illegal explosives has driven Lakewood residents and taxpayers to vacate their homes during this time, leaving their homes targets for vandalism and theft.

I have personally experienced all of the above concerns. When my family move to Lakewood 45 years ago, we looked forward to the many safe fireworks displays at Villa Plaza, American Lake Veterans Home, and at the many beautiful lakes in Lakewood, WA. Sadly, it is no longer a pleasant experience.

I want to thank the Council for revisiting this issue. And again I wish to submit my name in support to restrict to the one day only use of legal explosive devices.

I also understand any good rule is only as good as its enforcement. This may require additional police training in the identification of illegal explosives and their use by uncooperative individuals. We need to support these efforts.

Please submit my letter in support of change.

Sincerely,  
Katharine Rades  
12709 Lake City Blvd SW  
Lakewood, WA. 98498

Phone: 253 -588 -9073

**From:** [Kristy Skramstad](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks Regulations  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 8, 2020 7:42:14 PM

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*- helpdesk@cityoflakewood.us ext. 4357*

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Good evening Briana,

As I sit in my Lakewood home on July, 8, 2020, fireworks continue to go off in my neighborhood. They started again this year at the end of June and continue on several days past July 4<sup>th</sup>. Many of my mornings start with a 6am blast and continue here and there until late at night. Not only does the noise, pollution (air quality on the 4<sup>th</sup> and debris in my yard, on my house, and on my cars), and potential fire concerns put me on edge, it makes my dogs so terrified they shake until their teeth chatter and will only go in the backyard if I stand there with them.

While I know a complete ban is unlikely feasible at this time, please further restrict the use of fireworks to only July 4<sup>th</sup> and New Years Eve. I believe this is a good start to bettering the community by keeping us more physically and mentally safer. Please also consider additional enforcement measures to reduce the number of fireworks discharged outside of the permitted days and times.

Thank you for taking the time to read my concern.

Kristy Skramstad

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

**From:** [Marcia AndersonWilber](#)  
**To:** [Info](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 8, 2020 5:02:06 PM

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- helpdesk@cityoflakewood.us ext. 4357

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Please eliminate all fireworks in the city. Surrounding communities, Tacoma, etc have either ban all fireworks or reduced the number of legal day use to one day. (That in and of itself, means we are subjected to a week of noise and harassment to our pets].

This year was particularly excessive. I also, don't see the need to blast in the New Year,

Stipulate that all legal fireworks should be made in the USA. That would reduce the disruption also. Thank you

Marcia Anderson-Wilber

**From:** [Evelyn](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** July 3, 4 and 5th fireworks.  
**Date:** Thursday, July 9, 2020 4:59:27 PM

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- helpdesk@cityoflakewood.us ext. 4357

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This was the longest, loudest, and most aggressive year we have endured neighborhood fireworks in the almost 40 years we have lived in Lakewood.  
We understand families wanting to celebrate Independence Day with fireworks. Our sons and family certainly did in years past. However, this year was really extreme. Our hope is the City of Lakewood will make changes to our city ordinances to limit the number of days and time Neighborhood fireworks are allowed going forward.  
Our veterans suffering with PTSD, our pets and community will be very grateful!

Evelyn Bieber  
Sent from my iPhone

JUL 8 20

CITY OF  
LAKEWOOD

Dear Britana

I am respectfully requesting that my testimony be added to the record, shared with council members and be read in public during the 20 July public hearing. It is to my understanding that the public hearing will be virtual. I have no computer and I'm not on-line. Still I have very strong feelings concerning this issue and want to have my say.

I thank you for your time

With Sincere Respects

Paul L. Stickle

Phone # 253 582-7429



JUL 8 20

CITY OF  
LAKEWOOD

# Testimony

I am Paul C. Strickley. I am a resident of North Lakewood. I live on the border between Lakewood and the City of Tacoma. I can stand in front of my garage door, look through the chain link fence that designates the border, and literally see South Tacoma. I am in support of the regulation that restricts the use of legal fireworks to only 4th of July and December 31st. Several of my neighbors have told me that they would rather have fireworks banned altogether. I don't blame them. But the new regulation is a step in the right direction. The problem is that you have some people in Lakewood with no sense of responsibility, care only about themselves, and think they can do whatever they please whenever they please.

The new regulation is too long in coming. Last year in a city north of Seattle, two people burned to death in their own home because of fireworks. Is that what needs to happen here in Lakewood in order to get people's attention? There's nothing like being on the 5th o'clock news for all the wrong reasons.

I thank you for your time.



**From:** [Heather](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks  
**Date:** Friday, July 17, 2020 10:41:59 PM

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*- helpdesk@cityoflakewood.us ext. 4357*

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Dear Briana,

Hello I hope I am contacting the right person. Is there something we can do about the fireworks situation for next year? I have lived in Lakewood my entire life and the experience of this year was excruciating traumatic. There was no down time for Days. The local wildlife as well as my neighbor's animals we're truly traumatized from the events that took place in our neighborhood here. I'm hoping to find someone that will help to limit the amount of days that Lakewood allows fireworks to be blown off. There are working citizens in this neighborhood and we had to endure seven days of random m-80s being let off, fireworks that had no sparkle, just noise starting as early as 8:30am in the morning. Some being let off till 2:30am in the morning. I know this isn't what the city allows but it is being done. I asked you for all the essential workers in the area all veterans that have post-traumatic stress, our wild Life our family pets please consider only allowing fireworks on the actual Fourth of July. I realize that New year's is another night they like to let them off and that's acceptable as well. Please Think about another plan. If you know of someone else I could talk to, would you please give me their email or phone number I greatly appreciate it. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
Heather Blanchette

**From:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** 2020-07-17 Ronald Henry  
**Date:** Friday, July 17, 2020 1:05:00 PM

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Mr. Ronald W. Henry  
253-582-6582  
Lakewood resident

Friday, July 17, 2020 at 1303  
Called and expressed concerns regarding illegal fireworks in the community.

**From:** [Kay McKay](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Lakewood City Council consideration of limiting fireworks to July 4, rather than July 3, July 4, and July 5  
**Date:** Thursday, July 16, 2020 9:53:20 PM

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*- helpdesk@cityoflakewood.us ext. 4357*

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I spoke to the Lakewood City Council on January 16, 2018 regarding the number and size of fireworks discharged into the air around our neighborhood which is adjacent to the Clover Park High School. At that time I urged the City Council to eliminate fireworks like the neighboring cities of Steilacoom, University Place, Fircrest, and Tacoma have. A small percentage of Lakewood residents began igniting fireworks this year at least a week prior to July 3, and continued doing so nearly two weeks after July 5. The size of these explosives and the height to which they were propelled made them audible for many city blocks and were so loud our house windows shook and shock waves were felt inside our house. The silent majority of Lakewood residents that do not impact their neighbors with these enormous fireworks should not have to suffer because a few individuals have no consideration or limitation on when to ignite them. Allowing fireworks only on July 4 sends a message that the city of Lakewood protects those of us that do not consider disturbing the peace for nearly three weeks in July a privilege to be taken advantage of. Sincerely, Scott McKay

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am writing in support of instituting a ban on the sale and discharge of fireworks in the City of Lakewood, for the reasons reflected below.

While current regulations only allow for use of fireworks within specific time restrictions for three days in July, and for sale of fireworks during a short period leading up to those days, my middle class and otherwise reasonably quiet neighborhood has been subjected to fireworks since April, most frequently in the middle of the night (0200 to 0300). Based on experience of many years, we anticipate that we will continue to be subjected to them, at all hours of the day and night, until October. While I understand the City recently planned to utilize our police drones to capture activity surrounding the actual holiday, that process could not possibly reflect the reality of fireworks violations over a period of six months. Although July 4<sup>th</sup> is now over two weeks ago, we are still being assaulted regularly by everything from a massive explosion at 2300 hours last night to a deafening “concert” lasting a full hour several nights ago. If the noise and disrupted sleep were not enough, as we move into the hottest and driest part of the year we must also concern ourselves with the potential for our homes and vehicles to be set alight, threatening lives and property and unnecessarily wasting fire department resources on the related calls (which, due to reporting procedures, are not always specifically identified in statistics as fireworks related).

Even restricting our concerns to legal dates/times of discharge, extreme safety issues are rampant. None of the homes sharing a fence line with my property discharged fireworks on July 4<sup>th</sup>. Nevertheless, on the morning of July 5<sup>th</sup> I found significant debris from explosives which would have been launched not from my road, but from the next road over, lying in my back yard, which is shared by my dogs and filled with drying vegetation. I was fortunate to find nothing on my roof. On the 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> of July I listened as a small car sped along that same road, with explosions every few seconds timed perfectly to the location of that vehicle. Although I could not actually see the car, I feel confident in my belief that the occupants were tossing fireworks from the car as it sped down the road. Thankfully, it was not followed by a massive fire department response.

We are fortunate to live in an exquisitely beautiful and bountiful part of America. In our city, that bounty includes an amazing variety of wildlife, both on the ground and in the air. I can only imagine the terror of those creatures, for a full three days and nights every July, as they try desperately to escape a genuine threat to their very existence, their young, and their homes, with nowhere safe to hide from the terrifying cacophony. For many of us, protection of our domestic pets over this so-called “holiday” ranges everywhere from holding a trembling 120 pound dog on our lap to drugging our animals into a stupor for a week, but that only works for pets with

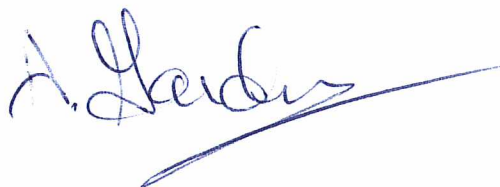
responsible, vigilant “parents”. Although I cannot provide you with statistics, it is no secret that animal control, animal shelters, and veterinary emergency clinics are overrun every 4<sup>th</sup> of July, frequently with a very sad and thoroughly unnecessary outcome. Human hospitals and emergency rooms fare little better, with unsupervised youngsters and innocent bystanders incurring life-altering injuries, if they survive at all.

If our wildlife and pets have nowhere safe to hide from this assault, both expected (an uninterrupted four hours on July 4<sup>th</sup>) and unexpected (0300 some night in the middle of May), neither do our Combat Veterans have an escape. In a city which prides itself on the number of active and former military members living within its borders and a close relationship with neighboring military installations, there should be greater consideration for those individuals’ experiences. After very nearly 20 years at war, there are untold numbers of US service members, both past and present, suffering from PTSD and other combat related issues, whether diagnosed or not. We owe those veterans the consideration and compassion of not exposing them to yet another nightmare by surrounding them with inescapable reminders of their terrors in a place where they should feel safe.

As long as the City of Lakewood allows for sale and even restricted use of fireworks, we will continue to experience the above abuses, threats, terrors and tragedies, with no escape. Our police department cannot possibly respond to every violation, even if citizens wistfully call them in, so violators know there are no consequences (resulting in law-abiding citizens simply “giving up” and no longer bothering to call). Granted, if fireworks are no longer sold in Lakewood, the die-hards will go elsewhere to get them, but many won’t, and as more cities and counties are joining in the ban, fireworks of all types are becoming less accessible. Lack of availability combined with greater emphasis on enforcement, at least in the short term, would eventually change the current situation.

While you may see the 4<sup>th</sup> of July as a time to celebrate a proud nation, many of your citizens have come to look on it with dread. I now hate even the idea of July 4<sup>th</sup>. It isn’t a holiday. It’s a misery which must, unnecessarily, be endured (for months after the fact!). ...and it leaves me every year with a conundrum no one seems prepared to address. Why is it that our military, law enforcement and any number of other government agencies, spend thousands of dollars to carefully select, train, and maintain specialized units to deal with things that go BOOM, yet our City is happy to hand out not-so-improvised explosive devices to any idiot with a few bucks and a beer?!? Is it just for a few measly tax dollars? Surely we can make that money up somewhere that doesn’t leave America’s citizens dreading her birthday.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "A. L. Linder", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.



August Selke  
102 Crestwood Drive SW  
Lakewood, 98498

RECEIVED  
JUL 20 20  
CITY COUNCIL  
CITY MANAGER

July 15, 2020

Dear Don Anderson, Mayor of Lakewood:

In any neighborhood, sounds can carry pretty far. Explosions even further. Many, many families can hear one person's fireworks. This one person's fun steals peace from a large number of others. His explosions threaten their hearing, their babies, their pets. His fun fills the air with smoke. His fun makes it impossible for many others to sleep. His fun presents risks of fire and bodily harm to neighbors (and himself). With fireworks, one person's "rights" have come to dominate the rights of many.

Just as non-smokers have a right to breathe clean air, Lakewood residents deserve peace and safety in their own homes. We should not be forced to endure the sounds of war, with non-stop explosions and blasts, hour after hour, well past midnight each night - - *for three consecutive days and nights!* If you don't believe it's bad every year, you haven't driven around the non-wealthy neighborhoods of Lakewood on July 3, 4 and 5 (and Dec. 31).

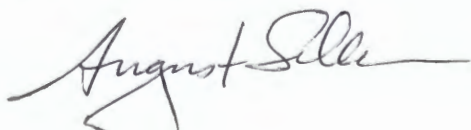
Other cities have outlawed fireworks but Lakewood promotes them with big circus tents all over the city, some advertising "Military Grade Armaments". While Lakewood is understandably loyal to the U.S. military, it cannot ignore families and pets.

So why not make the use of fireworks safer, with less bothersome noise and air pollution? The City could solve this by establishing designated safe areas for setting off fireworks, and make them illegal in neighborhoods. Parking lots are ideal areas where fire risk can be minimized, safe usage can be encouraged, and noise can be controlled.

Fireworks users will complain, but they accept going to a gun range to fire their weapon, and someday they too might become a pet owner or a parent, or come to appreciate sleep. And in gathering together for the activity, everyone gets to see and experience more.

If the City wants to continue supporting fireworks, it should provide safe places for using them, which do not punish the rest of its citizens. For the majority of us, we don't need to have PTSD to feel the oppression of violence from three days of explosions surrounding our homes in Lakewood.

Thank you, respectfully,



August Selke  
102 Crestwood Drive SW  
Lakewood, 98498

RECEIVED  
JUL 20 20  
CITY COUNCIL  
CITY MANAGER

July 15, 2020

Dear Jason Whalen, Deputy Mayor of Lakewood:

In any neighborhood, sounds can carry pretty far. Explosions even further. Many, many families can hear one person's fireworks. This one person's fun steals peace from a large number of others. His explosions threaten their hearing, their babies, their pets. His fun fills the air with smoke. His fun makes it impossible for many others to sleep. His fun presents risks of fire and bodily harm to neighbors (and himself). With fireworks, one person's "rights" have come to dominate the rights of many.

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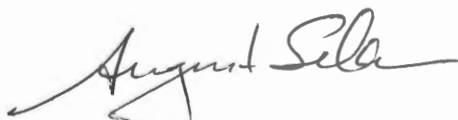
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Thank you, respectfully,





RECEIVED

JUL 20 20

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY MANAGER

August Selke  
102 Crestwood Drive SW  
Lakewood, 98498

July 15, 2020

Dear Paul Bocci, Lakewood City Council:

In any neighborhood, sounds can carry pretty far. Explosions even further. Many, many families can hear one person's fireworks. This one person's fun steals peace from a large number of others. His explosions threaten their hearing, their babies, their pets. His fun fills the air with smoke. His fun makes it impossible for many others to sleep. His fun presents risks of fire and bodily harm to neighbors (and himself). With fireworks, one person's "rights" have come to dominate the rights of many.

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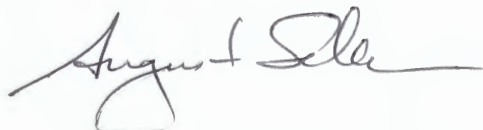
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Thank you, respectfully,





August Selke  
102 Crestwood Drive SW  
Lakewood, 98498

July 15, 2020

Dear Michael D. Brandstetter, Lakewood City Council:

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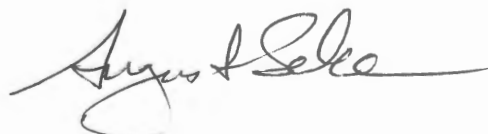
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Thank you, respectfully,



Steve & Laila Christensen  
10026 99<sup>th</sup> Ave Ct SW  
Lakewood, WA 98498

17 July 2020

Greetings Lakewood City Council,

The intent of this letter is to ask for your support and expeditious action in banning private fireworks in the city of Lakewood. We wrote to you last year requesting a ban. Given the city's concern with limiting its liability, we are discouraged by the slow pace towards legislative action.

This year, we were out of town on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and upon returning discovered a fire had burned a substantial patch of ground and foliage on the Lake Louise Drive right-of-way along the side of our property. We contacted the West Pierce Fire Department staff who inspected the burn area on 16 July 2020. A neighbor confirmed that the fire occurred on the night of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. It is probable this blaze was caused by use of fireworks. Had the fire spread up the bank to our wooden fence, our shed, our trailer and its propane tanks, or to our house, it could have destroyed all in its path. The West Pierce Fire Department investigator told us that they had responded to 23 brush fires on the fourth, but not this blaze.

A block away, Lake Louise Drive runs along a border to Fort Steilacoom Park. Dry grass and brush, and dead trees abound in and on the edge of the park. Should fireworks land in this area, it could be catastrophic for the neighborhood and city!

Each year we leave our home the week of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July to avoid the noise of personal fireworks, at all hours of the night and for weeks before and after the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and New Year's Eve. Lake Louise area residents completely disregard the regulations on fireworks. Use and duration of fireworks activity in Lakewood goes far beyond its intended celebratory purposes. In April this year, we were consistently bombarded by someone regularly putting off fireworks at about 3:00 AM in the vicinity of Lake Louise. This activity went on for several weeks.

Please take action now to ban the use private fireworks in the city of Lakewood, as other adjoining communities have done. Current regulations are not being adhered to or enforced, resulting in a dangerous and annoying situation for this Lakewood neighborhood.

Your decisive action in this matter is needed and greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

The block contains two handwritten signatures in black ink. The signature on the left is 'Steve Christensen' and the signature on the right is 'Laila Christensen'. Both are written in a cursive, flowing style.

The Christensen Family  
(253) 507 7048

From: [Craig Lee](#)  
To: [bshumacher@cityoflakewood.us](mailto:bshumacher@cityoflakewood.us)  
Cc: [Info](#)  
Subject: Fireworks Public Meeting  
Date: Sunday, July 19, 2020 10:54:42 PM

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*- helpdesk@cityoflakewood.us ext. 4357*

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Dear Lakewood City Council members,

I fully support the recommendation before the City Council **to restrict the use of fireworks in the city only between 11:00 am and 11:00 pm on July 4<sup>th</sup> and on December 31<sup>st</sup>.**

Whereas I respect the right of residents to use **legal** fireworks on the holiday, they need to respect the rights of people who want peace and quiet. We are both retired and live near Lake Steilacoom off of 104<sup>th</sup>. Fireworks, both legal and illegal, are exploded many days before the current legal date of July 3<sup>rd</sup> and continue well past July 5<sup>th</sup>. We have a dog that is extremely scared of the excessive noise. We have to drug our animal and sit in the closet with him until one or two in the morning for multiple nights. My future son-in-law suffers from PTSD (2 tours in Iraq and Afghanistan) as does my neighbor behind me.

Lakewood sounds like a war zone during Independence Day celebrations. I believe many of the firecrackers being set off are the illegal explosive devices – M-80s, M-100s, etc. To me, it is unconscionable for fireworks to be set off where war veterans are recovering from PTSD.

Please adopt the recommendation to restrict fireworks to July 4<sup>th</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup> only, and develop a policy for enforcement.

Thank you,

Craig & Stacie Lee

**From:** [Fred Feller](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks in Lakewood  
**Date:** Monday, July 20, 2020 7:09:49 PM

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- helpdesk@cityoflakewood.us ext. 4357

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I live at 7023 95th Ave. SW, 98498.

My wife and I are strongly in favor of restricting fireworks to July 4th and enforced to the hours they may be used.

Fred Feller  
And  
Mari Feller

Would you

**From:** [Fred Feller](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks in Lakewood  
**Date:** Monday, July 20, 2020 7:19:57 PM

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I have sent a prior email, but based on the Council discussion just now, I support a BAN on fireworks.

Fred Feller  
7023 95th Ave. SW  
Lakewood, 98498

Roger Powell

Phone: 253-670-6007

8519 Nixon Avenue SW

Lakewood, WA

7/20/2020 at 2:58 p.m.

Mr. Powell called and stated: Where I live I had mortar rounds on both sides of me – to both the north and south. The house was shaking. I cannot stay at home for the fourth of July anymore. I want the illegal fireworks banned and I want the Police to respond and enforce.

Patricia Lawson

Phone: 253-670-6007

8519 Nixon Avenue SW

Lakewood, WA

7/20/2020 at 3:00 p.m.

Ms. Nixon called and stated: I would like to see fireworks banned in the City of Lakewood. I would like Lakewood to put a system in place to detect excessively loud fireworks.

Dear Brianna

I have enclosed the statements concerning fireworks that I spoke of on the phone. I respectfully request that they be placed on file. I know there is a lot of information in these statements but I believe this information is important and needs to be said. I would like to thank you for being very gracious listening to my personal thoughts concerning this matter. Again, I feel very strongly about this. If for any reason anyone in the Lakewood city government would like to meet with me face to face concerning this matter, I have no problem doing so.

Respectfully with Sincere Gratitude

Pat L. Stuckey

Phone # 253-582-7429

# Statement

## To Whom It May Concern

I am Paul C. Strickley. I am a resident of Lakewood, Wash. On the date of 4 July 2019 on or about 10:00pm, I heard fireworks going off close to my residence. When I went outside, I saw fireworks going off close to my neighbors' residences across the street. I walked across the street and saw 5 people in the west vacant lot on Mt. Tahoma school property shooting the fireworks. The 5 people were from a community close by here in Lakewood. I stated to them that they need to quit shooting off the fireworks, they were too close to the building, they called me a nazi and a communist. They also stated to me "God Bless America". I am a Military Retiree, Disabled Veteran, and a Gulf War Veteran. (I served with the 6th Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 1st Armored Division, during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm). I then tried to call 9-1-1 but could not get through. I have had both of my hips replaced, my spine fused, Stage 3 kidney disease due to hypertension, and walk with a cane. Whether right or wrong I felt that the fireworks were being fired too close to my neighbors' residences. I also felt that this was a very dangerous situation. The average age of my neighbors is 70 to 85 years old. I am 64 years old. I took it upon myself to climb over the fence that designates the border between Lakewood and Mt. Tahoma school property. With the aid of a walking stick, I started walking



towards the five people, telling them to leave or I'll call the cops. They kept on shooting the fireworks above my head. One of the five people threw what I believe was a shoe, but it did not hit me. When I got close to them, they left the vacant lot on the school property. I was a bit banged up so I went to Madigan Army Medical Center later, on to get checked out. The five people did not return to the vacant lot. On the date of 5 July 2019, I reported the incident to the Mt. Tacoma school patrol. I also reported the incident to Officer Fitzgerald of the Lakewood Police Dept. On the date of 26 June 2020 I called the Tacoma School Patrol and asked them to watch the Mt. Tacoma school property on 4th of July weekend. They agreed to do so. During 4th of July weekend 2020 there were no problems with fireworks. I am of the belief that the Tacoma School Patrol did an excellent job concerning this matter. I am grateful for their help.

This statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

With Sincere Respects

Paul C. Stanley 21 July 2020 Lakewood Wash.

# Statement

On the date of 6 July, a neighbor stated to me that during the 4th of July weekend, someone was shooting fireworks at the Chinese Church, from across Lakewood Drive. On or about the week of 6 to 10 July, another neighbor told me over the phone about the same incident. In truth I did not see the incident. During 3, 4, 5, July 2020 from 9:00pm to 12:00am, I was walking around my community to ensure that no fireworks would adversely affect my neighborhood. In truth my main focus at the time was the east side that borders with Mt. Lakoma School property due to an incident with fireworks on 4 July 2019. I did on the nights of 3, 4, 5, July go to the western side of my neighborhood along side of Lakewood Drive. At that time I saw no fireworks being fired at the Chinese ~~Church~~ Church, though I did see fireworks across Lakewood Drive. On the date of 6 July, I called Hao Liang, who is a church elder at the Chinese Church so he would have knowledge of the incident. I am of the belief that my neighbors did see exactly what they saw. I do not doubt them whatsoever and what they stated to me is true.

This statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief

With Sincere Respects

Pat L. Steadley 21 July 2020 Lakewood Wash.

# Amendment To Statement

## To Whom It May Concern

I have one question to ask. If the new regulation is approved, who is going to enforce it? Who is enforcing the regulation that Lakewood has now? Whoever it is, they are falling in doing their job. I am of the belief that I did their job on 4 July, 2019 when I stood up to five people with just a walking stick in my hand. I did their job that most likely they get paid for with my tax money. Then theres fireworks going off a week before 4th of July and two weeks after in Lakewood. If theres going to be rules and regulations - THEN ENFORCE THEM!

Concerning what happened at the Chinese Church on Lakewood Drive on 4th of July weekend, again, no I did not witness the incident. If I had, most likely I probably would have to take it upon myself to put an end to it. Based on the incident last year most likely I wouldn't be able to get through to 9/11 this year if I needed to. I have nothing but good things to say about the church members at the Chinese Church. They are great neighbors. They've put a lot of time, hard work and money to include their hearts and souls into their church. I don't know what the intention was of whoever was shooting fireworks at that church. As of late I've seen on the news as to where churches have been damaged intentionally to include religious statues. Also with it being said

that Covid 19 was caused by the communist government in China, I've also heard news reports of Chinese citizens living in the U.S. have suffered retribution. I know for a fact that the church members at the Chinese Church are loyal, patriotic, and have a great love for this country. As a Catholic and a Christian I feel a sense of duty to defend that church. I'm no saint and I'm not the most reverent person in the world. Still it's an honor to be that church's neighbor. Catholic churches have someone living there. St Francis Cabrini in Lakewood has a Priest living there. St John Bosco also in Lakewood has a Priest living there. St Charles in Tacoma has two Priests and Nuns living there. There's other Catholic churches that have Priests, Nuns, and Monks living there. This is not the case with Protestant or Non Denominational churches.

I still am in support of a new regulation concerning fireworks. Now from what I've heard on the news, rioters are using fireworks as weapons. After what happened to the Chinese Church on Lakewood Drive this year and what I've experienced last year. It does not surprise me.

This statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

With Sincere Respects

Pat L. Steffy 21 July 2020  
Lakewood Wash.



John Cunningham  
9716 Forest Ave. SW  
Lakewood, WA 98498-2734

August 18, 20

Hello,

Mayor Anderson, Deputy Mayor Jason Whalen  
and Council members

Thank you for seeking public input  
on the use of legal fireworks for the  
4<sup>th</sup> of July. 11AM to 11PM only.

This is a fine plan, unfortunately the  
real situation needs to be addressed

It is not legal fireworks, days & time,  
it is the discharge of **ILLEGAL FIREWORKS**  
and Explosives, with little or no code  
enforcement.

This year, after the Lakewood Connections  
Magazine came in our mailbox, I guess  
those who read the article Celebrate Responsibly  
choose to ignore it, again, and knowing  
there would be nothing done to stop them.

Perhaps, those who sell the illegal  
items, should be held accountable.

or Perhaps the buyer should be.

This year illegal firecrackers and IED  
began June 30, 2020 and continued  
thru July 10<sup>th</sup>.

One block set off many, **ILLEGAL FIREWORKS** -  
IED, SKY ROCKETS, MISSILES BOTTLE ROCKETS AND  
FIRECRACKERS, IN THE STREET, IN FRONT OF HOMES,  
LANDING IN YARDS AND ROOFTOPS.



John Cunningham  
9716 Forest Ave. SW  
Lakewood, WA 98498-2734

THE Following List of CONCERNS, we  
hope you will consider, in MAKING a final  
decision.

- \*1 Post TRAUMATIC STRESS Disorder.  
Veterans And Families  
dealing WITH Loss of Loved ones.  
our Retired Military who Live here.  
MENTAL And Physical TRAUMA
- 2 Fires - Homes And Properties -(Embers)
- 3 Personal Injuries
- 4 Pets - Loud And-frightening sounds.  
More Lost pets than Any other time of year!
5. Sleep DEPRIVATION -(Almost 6 days)  
Police, Firefighters, Hospital STAFF,  
Retail Employees, Delivery DRIVERS,  
UTILITY Employees, Restaurant Workers  
(Every neighbor who would Like to SLEEP)
6. Air Quality - Pollution - Smoke
- 7 EXTREME Dry CONDITIONS - TOO LATE TO CANCEL (unknown)  
outside Fire danger, grass fires, trees.



John Cunningham  
9716 Forest Ave. SW  
Lakewood, WA 98498-2734

In Conclusion:

\* Personal fireworks are banned in Tacoma, with a fine of \$257.00

\* Even with a ban Tacoma Fire Dept. reported 23 fireworks related fires between June 26 - July 6. (2019)

People have been bringing their personal fireworks, legal and illegal fireworks & explosives to Lakewood for some time.

I hope you can make a judgement in favor of our Vets, and really vote on the side of so many, who retire here in Lakewood. \* LET'S FOLLOW TACOMA'S PLAN,

Thank you,  
Mr. & Mrs. John Cunningham.

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# Letter: Lakewood Fireworks Ban?

AUGUST 2, 2020 BY [THE SUBURBAN TIMES](#) — [25 COMMENTS](#)

Submitted by KM Hills.

Forth of July is by far my favorite holiday. Ever since I was a child I have loved fireworks whether they were safe and sane fireworks which we lite off in our backyard or were professional fireworks at a local show.

I remember in the good old days, before The City of Lakewood existed, the Villa Plaza (aka Towne Center) would have a professional show near the old cinema. I have attended City Council meetings on and off for years and I remember when The City first set specific dates for firework discharge.





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LET'S DO IT UP LIKE I SAW AT DISNEY WORLD

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That was back when General Harrison was Mayor and I don't know if he, like me, just loves watching fireworks or if being a retired general he was just that patriotic but he seemed to support the fireworks vs banning them. The City is again looking at further restrictions on fireworks and in the last council meeting it was brought up that they may even consider banning them all together.

With the Pandemic this year there were no professional firework shows to be seen but WOW the Lakewood sky sure looked good lit up with amazing displays everywhere my head turned. There may be a few people that wish to restrict or ban fireworks but from the look of the sky on July Fourth I would say an overwhelming majority had a show in their backyards.



When I heard one of the council members mention a ban it got me wondering how big a problem fireworks are in the City of Lakewood. So, I filed a public records request (#20519) with The City to see how many violations there were between July 01, 2019 and July 10, 2020.

To my surprise Not A Single Citation had been issued. In comments I submitted to the Council for the public hearing on fireworks I quoted the Public Safety Advisory Committee "At the direction of council the Public Safety Advisory Committee conducted informal surveys, held discussions and reviewed regulations in place in neighboring jurisdictions. The result of that work was a recommendation not to amend city code due to a low impact of the calls for service around fireworks discharges."

It really makes me ponder why with recent input from their own Advisory Committee and with no citations during the course of two July 4th's and one New Years is the Council even considering to restrict or ban fireworks?

One last question . . . If they do ban them all together does that mean The City will step up and put on a professional show at the average cost of \$1,000 per minute? I mean the Steilacoom show is awesome to watch but getting in and out of the great town is a challenge.



[Print This Post](#)

#### Related



[Westside Story - Outlaw Fireworks In Lakewood](#)

March 30, 2020

In "Things To Ponder"



[Westside Story - Lakewood City Council Ignites Fireworks Conversation](#)

May 26, 2020

In "Things To Ponder"

[City Urged to Ban Fourth of July Fireworks to Protect Wildlife, Companion Animals, and Veterans With PTSD](#)

Submitted by PETA. With the Lakewood City Council's June 1 meeting set to address a proposal to tighten the city's fireworks regulations to allow fireworks to

May 29, 2020  
In "Things To Know"

## Comments

**James Kollar says**

AUGUST 2, 2020 AT 4:04 PM

I was the person who for several years (2003 – 2005 if I remember right) set up the fireworks to fire by computer on the barge at Steilacoom. It was a blast! Several interesting experiences that I will never forget. Anyway could not agree with you more! Thanks for the article.

[Reply](#)**KM Hills says**

AUGUST 3, 2020 AT 11:19 AM

Thanks for sharing and thanks for the good shows. I have often gone to Steilacoom and alternate with the Tacoma Waterfront. Both equally as good in my opinion.

[Reply](#)**Susan says**

AUGUST 2, 2020 AT 4:52 PM

Spend the afternoon and evening in the Lake City area. Just might answer your questions...

[Reply](#)**KM Hills says**

AUGUST 2, 2020 AT 6:12 PM

I lived on Dolly Madison for many years, in Lake City not far from North American Lake Park, and you are right it does answer a question. The City could have a show on American lake that way it could be viewed from North American Lake or Harry Todd. Thanks for the input.

[Reply](#)

**R R says**

AUGUST 2, 2020 AT 10:18 PM

No citations doesn't mean they weren't making life difficult for people, pets, surrounding wildlife, and environment. I don't know anyone who bothers to call in a complaint. An outright ban would be the easiest way to control it. I don't know where you are, but it can't be near my house because the loud, noise focused fireworks going off for a week doesn't make for anyone's "favorite holiday" over here. Above all "it's fun" is not acceptable reason for any other societal ill, why should those who hate fireworks have to put up with them? Where is our choice? Our ability to enjoy time in our own homes? Fireworks are the pursuit of selfish and should be banned.

**Reply****KM Hills says**

AUGUST 3, 2020 AT 11:17 AM

RR –

Thanks for your reply. I am not far from the Towne Center / Racquet Club area. I too hear the loud fireworks for a time before and after the 4th. I don't mind the booms and Yes, it does lead to my favorite holiday. Honestly, I like the professional ones that are so big that when they explode you can feel the concussion as you lay on the ground watching. I disagree with you about "it's fun" leads to many accepted social ills. In fact the voters of WA decriminalized marijuana and lots of people use it because "it's fun." I don't use due to my job and just not liking the idea but do you know how much marijuana related DUI's have increased, since voters passed recreational use? You say that those of us who like fireworks are being selfish but aren't those who want to ban them being just as selfish? Why should I have to go without the colorful displays that light up the sky because of those who do not like the noise?

**Reply****R R says**

AUGUST 3, 2020 AT 6:33 PM

Cannabis has medicinal properties in addition to being fun, which fireworks do not have. The best equivalent to fireworks would be banging your pots and pans on your front lawn at 1:00 a.m., which generally isn't allowed and at the very least it will not

make your neighbors very happy. By using fireworks you are intruding in the lives of the people around you without their consent. It is also been known to disturb both pets and local wildlife in addition to adding chemicals in the air. While this is a case where somebody has to have less fun, ultimately the fireworks cause more issues than they do providing enjoyment, again particularly if you're taking animals into account. By not having fireworks those who like them will miss out on some fun, but by having them it is adding anxiety to both people and animals, therefore it is the more selfish option.

Reply

**Joseph Boyle says**

AUGUST 3, 2020 AT 9:51 PM

RR,

You have a unique perspective and I might say right on target. Thanks for using your intellect to share some excellent ideas regarding this hotly debated issue.

Joseph Boyle

**Nobody says**

AUGUST 2, 2020 AT 11:01 PM

There were no citations because the laws are not enforced. There are only certain days and times they can be lit at are supposed to stop at midnight but we heard then going of well past then until about 2a.m. the cops do not care. Even if you were to call it in they wouldn't even show up. A lot of people have anxiety and PTSD, many veterans. I wish people were more considerate of others but that's asking too much. People suck and there are too damn many of them.

Reply

**Lara Bowers says**

AUGUST 3, 2020 AT 5:30 PM

I could not agree more. I am absolutely sick of the 4th in Lakewood.

[Reply](#)**Richard says**

AUGUST 3, 2020 AT 7:57 AM

In the good old days, when Larry Saunders was chief and Dave Hall his assistant, they both travelled thruout Lakewood and they personally gave tickets to those not following the fireworks rules.

I thought last year was bad, but this year's World War III beat it all to heck with noise and house shaking explosions.

The writer is oblivious to the problems and injuries caused by fireworks to those suffering from a variety of medical problems and to pets who hide under beds, in closets, or wherever they feel they may be safe.

[Reply](#)**Steve says**

AUGUST 3, 2020 AT 10:05 AM

Agreed. There is no reason people need to be setting off stuff that rattles windows blocks away. They should be fined and/or jailed.

[Reply](#)**Norm says**

AUGUST 3, 2020 AT 8:02 AM

Do a 911 public records search for 3 days before July 4th and 5 days after. I called 911 many times. The police never showed up. The neighbors were shooting off illegal fireworks till 4 am for 7 days. Apparently, you don't care about the animals and Military people suffering from war related health issues.

[Reply](#)

**Fred says**

AUGUST 3, 2020 AT 8:40 AM

The fact that zero citations were issued is the point. I suspect many complaints were made but Lakewood PD has chosen or been instructed to ignore fireworks complaints. If fireworks were limited to the times and types of fireworks specified in the current ordinance, I doubt we would be having this discussion. The most objectionable fireworks are illegal year round. A total ban is easier to enforce than asking police officers to determine if a particular item is legal or not.

[Reply](#)

**Chris says**

AUGUST 3, 2020 AT 9:32 AM

It's sad that those who use illegal fireworks could be the cause of a total ban. I have fond memories of setting off legal fireworks with my dad when I was young, and carrying on that tradition with my own sons.

Certainly there are risks associated with any type of fireworks, but trying to make life risk-free is not only impossible, but can suck the life out of living. Legal fireworks should not be banned. Keep life interesting!

[Reply](#)

**Joseph Boyle says**

AUGUST 3, 2020 AT 9:46 AM

Chris,

While I favor a ban on fireworks because of the IDIOT FACTOR, your plan would work. I have no problem allowing legal fireworks if Lakewood Police was funded and organized to hammer anyone displaying the IDIOT FACTOR, like my neighbor who for two years in a row has done his best to start a brush fire, forest fire, and house fire (2 homes) one of which is my home.

Police could come out and investigate the burning material in our yards and on our roofs. Step 2 is hammer my neighbor with a ticket or book him into Pierce County Jail for Reckless Endangerment.

None of that will probably happen, so an enforced outright ban may well be the only answer.

I am okay with illegal fireworks as long as wreckless idiots do not possess and use them.

I can go either way; legal fireworks are okay or outright ban. All I ask is that our city and police do what they can to prevent my neighbor from burning down my home and killing my family.

Joseph Boyle

[Reply](#)

**KM Hills says**

AUGUST 3, 2020 AT 10:57 AM

Chris-

Well said. Sounds like you had a good upbringing like I did. One thing many people may not know is how legal fireworks have changed. It has been many years since I have purchased fireworks but the last time I did it was surprised to see mortar type fireworks at the safe and sane stand here in Lakewood. Maybe that is part of the confusion that folks assume the colorful ones being shot up are no legal up to a certain size.

[Reply](#)

**KM Hills says**

AUGUST 3, 2020 AT 11:00 AM



\* are NOW legal up to a certain size

[Reply](#)

**chris says**

AUGUST 3, 2020 AT 11:03 AM

Thanks! The problem is weighing risk versus fun. There is a spectrum, and finding the balance is sometimes difficult. For instance, I ride a motorcycle because I enjoy it. I was hit by a car when I was in my early 20s which sent me to the hospital and put me on crutches for a few weeks. Still, to me the risk is worth it; I still ride. I'm also fully prepared to accept the consequences if I am in an accident. Usually between a car and a motorcycle the car wins, but if for some reason I was in an accident which was my fault I would be prepared to make things right with the other person (that's why I have insurance). As I said before, life is full of risks, the challenge is having the freedom to do what we enjoy without unduly putting others in harm's way.

[Reply](#)

**Steve says**

AUGUST 3, 2020 AT 10:03 AM

People don't use them responsibly, nor do they keep usage within the allowed days/hours.

Someone was just shooting them off last weekend around here.

I'm for banning them and actually citing offenders. Whomever is on board with that has my vote.

[Reply](#)

**Joseph Boyle says**

AUGUST 3, 2020 AT 10:18 AM

KM Hills,

You attempt to make several points supporting not banning fireworks and in doing so you bring to mind several questions and issues.

(1) Do you have any economic interest in the production and sale of fireworks?

(2) You say fireworks are a favorite of yours since childhood. I think it is time for you to put your childhood memories in the past and start thinking like an adult. If you can focus on adult thinking then you can more clearly understand the negative issues related to the use and abuse of fireworks such as animal cruelty, injury, hearing loss, brush fires, forest fires, and the burning of homes.

(3) You point out there was not a single citation issued therefore there must not be a problem. That is not accurate. There is a giant fireworks problem, but Lakewood Police, perhaps based on manpower and funding chooses to do nothing about fireworks complaints.

You talk about no citations in 2019 and 2020. Your statement is highly misleading. Of course, there were no citations. The police did nothing. I called to complain about my neighbor who thinks he is a pyrotechnic genius. 911 Dispatch informed me there were so many fireworks complaints, Lakewood Police was not responding. If law enforcement does not respond and investigate, then, of course, there is not going to be a citation.

Current conditions in Lakewood push citizens towards vigilantism where a fireworks victim may need to send illegal fireworks towards the offender's home. Once the offender's home is ablaze, maybe he, Lakewood City Council, and the Lakewood Police will be able to see the problem.

(4) You mention the Lakewood Public Safety Committee. That committee, like most committees, is comprised of well-meaning, do nothing citizens. They sit around wringing their hands and looking for ways to not take action or generate solutions.

I sat on that committee for two years and when I could no longer stand the all talk, no action process, I quit.

Bottom line. The committee's findings and statements often easily mean nothing.

(5) You talk about there being a low impact on calls for service. Another reader suggests you check the 911 records for citizens calling to complain. There are lots of complaints, but Lakewood Police cannot or will not do anything to prevent obvious property damage risk, injury, or death.

When property is damaged, people are injured, and people die, you Mr. Hills will have blood on your hands.

If you do not yet get my point, please provide me with your home address. Next forth of July you can relive your childhood. I can duplicate my dangerous home environment by setting up illegal fireworks in the middle of the street in front of your home. Once your home is fully engulfed in flames with your loved ones inside, then; maybe then, you will support a ban on fireworks in the City of Lakewood.

Joseph Boyle

P.S. Mr. Hills, I mean you know harm, but I am trying to make my point in clear "bell tone language". You are talking about the potential death of my family and the loss of my home. Quite naturally, my reaction to your clinging to your childhood at the expense of risking my home and family causes me to have an intense reaction

Reply

**KM Hills says**

AUGUST 3, 2020 AT 10:49 AM

Mr Boyle –

No, I do not have any financial interest/gain in the production or sale of fireworks. I have often thought what a great job it would be to be a pyro-technician though. I do know that many non-profits like churches and little league teams use the fireworks booths as fund raisers. So it would be a shame to stop the sale and make it that much harder on those organizations.

I am not sure about your child memories but why would I want to give them up. Time with family on holidays, camping trips and special events are great to look back on and enjoy. I hope you keep some smiles from your past in mind.

I know there have been request for me to look at 911 calls vs citations but I find it very hard to believe that ALL of the 911 calls so many readers mentioned did not lead to one citation. With so many injuries, forest fire and homes burning down and deaths, how is that possible? And my facts are not misleading they are facts not 1 citation, according to The City itself was issued in that 12 months block. Maybe we would not have to explore any new restrictions on dates if the police did respond to whatever calls where place to 911. I hope NO Lakewood resident would take any legal matter into their own hands and send fireworks towards their neighbors home. I know my great neighbors would not and I hope

you are the same kind of person. I will have no blood on my hands since I no longer light fireworks just enjoy them when they are there to be seen.

It is unfortunate you sat on a city committee that took no action. I am not sure if that was just your committee, the Council did not allow actions to be taken or just found no merit in what the committee produced. Either way it is interesting to hear your perspective about how little the committees are worth.

As much as I would like to get to know you and other city residents better Mr. Boyle I think our 1st date should be at a coffee shop so we can get to know each other better before we invite each other to our homes. I certainly don't need any fireworks purposefully pointed in my open windows like you suggest some might do.

PS Mr. Boyle – No harm taken, and since you were making your point in clear “bell tone language” I hope my response ring just as clearly. No Hard Feelings.

I do appreciate anyone who is willing to take the time to respond and present an opposing view.

### Reply

#### Joseph Boyle says

AUGUST 3, 2020 AT 11:44 AM

Mr. Hills,

Although intense, I do believe you and I have experienced a civilized and constructive discourse. I thank you for that.

I am not asking you to forget your childhood memories. You may find it interesting to know that I too have childhood memories that bring a smile to my face.

When I was a kid, my neighbor, Mr. Fry, who worked for Boeing, bought a truckload of fireworks and fired them off for days. What great fun for a poor have-not kid who could not afford fireworks.

When I was around age 12, I worked in one of Charlie Brown's fireworks stands. Because of my industrious / follow orders work ethic, in the end, he gave me a giant bag of fireworks that lasted me for decades into adulthood. (Note Charlie Brown founded two towns in Washington State, named George, Washington, and Martha, Washington.)

In my early 50s, I actually assisted a licensed pyrotechnician set off a 4th of July fireworks display.

I do not hate fireworks. I hate having my callous, non-thinking, idiot neighbor causing fireworks material, that is on fire, to land on my roof for 2 years in a row.

A coffee shop is a perfect place to meet. Contact me after we get past the Covid-19 pandemic. I look forward to meeting you.

Joseph Boyle

Reply

#### **J. Gordon says**

AUGUST 5, 2020 AT 10:00 AM

My childhood memories of 4th of July fireworks involved sparklers, small ground fountains, tiny firecrackers, those silly charcoal snakes, and small bottle rockets that maybe went 20-30 feet up and made a crack sound.

Big displays were put on professionally at sports arenas, and Disneyland.

The trouble is this. What people are shooting off is a LOT different than the fireworks we bought at the Red Devil fireworks stands when I was a child. The crap people are getting from the reservation fireworks stands are causing a lot of havoc.

When someone three doors down is shooting off crap that makes my windows rattle, and doing it all night long for about a three week period keeping every other neighbor awake...when people's pets are terrorized, when people with PTSD are being terrorized, and when people are losing their homes to fires caused by illegal fireworks, and large tracts of land are going up in smoke in wildfires caused by fireworks, something needs to change.

In another discussion, a woman stated that she had lost her home to fire caused by fireworks.

This past 5th of July, my husband was working in the back yard. A man living two doors down was deliberately aiming mortars low and aiming them at other people's yards. Quite a few went off low enough they started grass fires in our back yard in an

area we've been trying to kill off grass so we can build a deck area, and even started some pine needles on our roof burning.

Luckily my husband was working out there and saw it happen, and extinguished the flames with the hose. My husband then called police, but we have no idea whether they ever even responded.

If we hadn't been home, we could easily have lost our home. If he'd been doing it during the wee hours, we could easily have lost our lives. The neighbor is one of the idiots Joseph Boyle was describing.

Why should childhood memories outweigh public safety?

[Reply](#)

**J. Gordon says**

AUGUST 3, 2020 AT 10:30 AM

I have asthma and reactive airway disease. I've also been home bound for the past 3 years with a chronic infection between my sinuses and trachea, which has my doctors baffled because it's antibiotic resistant. This infection started because people were too stupid to stay home when they'd been sick, and I also permanently lost my singing voice due to it. My immune system is all but non existent.

I have a lot of trouble when neighbors on both sides are using charcoal grills, or outdoor fire pits, and on the 4th of July and New Years Eve when they're all shooting off fireworks, and not the safe and sane variety. They must expend hundreds if not thousands of dollars on the big reservation ordinance. I can't breathe easily when this happens, inside of my own home, and with doors and windows closed. The smoke still manages to enter my home through the chimney and window A/C units.

I end up having to use my nebulizer more often than usual, and with this pandemic I feared this past 4th that I might end up having to go to the E.R. for treatment, and risk exposure and infection with Covid-19.

My cat is also terrified by the explosions, as are all the animals in the area. Neighbor dogs are screeching and yiking in terror as their own owners are setting off the big explosions. Their owners don't care.

And then there is the very real threat of fires set by these fireworks. People have lost their homes. When is enough enough? Why is the so called right to set off illegal fireworks overruling people's rights to sleep at night without fear of their home catching fire from fireworks?

With what's been going on in this nation, I'm not sure the U.S.A. deserves a birthday celebration.

I'm all for banning fireworks in city limits, and citing offenders, IF we have enough officers who will actually perform that duty. I've lived in this home for 36 years now, and fireworks complaints called in during the wee a.m. hours are largely ignored.

[Reply](#)

## Leave a Reply

Your email address will not be published. Required fields are marked \*

Comment

Name \*

Email \*

Website

**From:** [Jen Doehne](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks Comment  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 25, 2020 11:01:20 PM

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When in doubt, please contact the HelpDesk.

- helpdesk@cityoflakewood.us ext. 4357

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Hello,

I live in the city of Lakewood, Oakbrook area, just behind the disc golf/mental hospital. I love my city. I try to get out and volunteer to make it even better. I work early in the morning and have a customer-facing job, which requires me to be awake and good spirits. I have owned my house here for two years now (so 2 fourth of July's worth of time).

The fireworks here are terrible. If they were contained to one night, that would be okay... but here, people light off fireworks over a MONTH before AND after July 4th. Plus they tend to light them off at all hours of the night...and morning. There is no responsibility. Personally, they wake me up most nights. I also have a dog who is mortified of them. She is at high risk for heart attack because she is so stressed out (per my veterinarian). I can't even imagine what a military veteran with PTSD must feel for the months of June, July, and August (as well as New Years Eve)! I am also quite sure that people go up to the disk golf course to light them off...most nights they sound like they might be in my backyard. This is certainly "disturbing the peace" RCW 9.26.050(4) and are definitely a dangerous nuisance.

Additionally, when I go up to the disk golf course (and walk around my neighborhood with my dogs) around this time of the year (both years I have lived here), the amount of firework trash left behind is ridiculous. It may not even be intentional, as many times I will find it remains of fireworks just below the trees...but I have picked up bags of firework trash that simply show that the users don't care about damaging the environment.

Again, I would be completely on-board with fireworks if it was JUST on the 4th of July. At least then I have the option to leave town that night to avoid them. However, we are in late August and some nights I am still awoken by them. People are just not mature enough to responsibly use this type of item.

I have also heard many stories from my neighbors of the damage that they do and have done to people they know. I feel that I can't make this claim because I have not been personally damaged (other than severe loss of sleep) but this is absolutely a concern as well.

I hope that Lakewood will consider that Thurston County (Olympia, Lacey, Tumwater) has an effective fireworks ban. Further, my independent research is showing that other cities, states, and countries have also enacted bans across the world. I attempted to play Devil's Advocate here but the only thing I could come up with is that people need a 1-2 second distraction with sparkly lights and boom sounds, without regard of anyone else other than those in the group. Fireworks don't give anything back to society that can't be better achieved by other means.

Please give me my sleep back! Ban fireworks in Lakewood.

Thank you,  
Jen



**From:** [Leah Taff](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 25, 2020 10:56:09 PM

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Dear Council members,

It is my understanding that the Council is considering a ban on all fireworks in Lakewood. I am reaching out to ask that you not take away our, and many others', fun family holiday tradition of enjoying legal fireworks! My brother and I grew up watching my dad light fountains, small aerials, ground spinners, and sparklers to our amazement and utter enjoyment. I still feel that excitement watching fireworks and a sense of patriotism, and my husband and I have passed that tradition down to our 5 children. They talk about fireworks all year long and start the countdown to the next 4th of July on July 5th every year. Ha ha! Sadly, I'm finding that simple "good fun" activities are becoming harder to come by for families these days. Please don't take this timeless tradition away!  
Please use the resources at hand to enforce restrictions on illegal fireworks (the M80s, bottle rockets, etc) rather than take away the family-friendly ones entirely.

Respectfully,  
Leah Taff  
Lakewood resident  
253.732.7827

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Michelle Johnson](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Sept 8th meeting fireworks  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 25, 2020 10:16:02 PM

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I don't have much to say but I do feel firework do more harm than good, fireworks shows should be left to the professionals. Also with the drier summers we are having they are riskier.  
Hope to see them banned in the future.  
Michelle Johnson

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Cynthia](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 26, 2020 2:08:03 PM

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- helpdesk@cityoflakewood.us ext. 4357

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Good morning,  
We live at 7404 95th Ave SW Lakewood in the Oakbrook community. We are home owners and tax payers.  
The area is dense with trees. Not a good mix with fireworks.  
We have put out multiple fires throughout the years from fireworks being shot off in the neighborhood.  
We have to stay home and hose everything down during the preceding week before the 4th and subsequent days afterwards.  
We clean up spent rockets that have been shot throughout our neighborhood.  
We believe Lakewood City Council needs to take the responsible action and ban fireworks sales and ignition like several other cities have before a catastrophe takes place.  
We support the professional shows that take place in unforrested areas with the fire department ready to assist in case of an accident.  
Please include our email for the council meeting.  
Respectfully,  
Cynthia La Fleur and Vicky Bach  
253 327-9858

Sent from Xfinity Connect Application

**From:** [fshackleford](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 26, 2020 6:41:30 AM

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*- helpdesk@cityoflakewood.us ext. 4357*

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LA county in California has a no fireworks law in effect. But if you watched tv on the 5th of July you could see the MAJORITY of people ignored the law. Fireworks everywhere you looked. This happened across this country.

It's our country's birthday. Let us celebrate. We already have lots of restrictive laws. We don't need more.

Also you CANNOT protect everyone from everything all the time...

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

**From:** [Albert Phillips](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks  
**Date:** Thursday, August 27, 2020 10:39:39 AM

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*- helpdesk@cityoflakewood.us ext. 4357*

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please leave our fireworks laws intact and unhindered its the only thing left the neighbor hood kids have left to look forward to we live in the woodbrook neighborhood and it's a special day of cooking and then the shows begin i specifically buy extra fire works so the neighbor hood kids can light things off been doing it for 5 or 6 years now please don't take this small enjoyment away from these kids and hard working parents thank you

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

**From:** [Lea Dean](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Comment on amendments related to fireworks  
**Date:** Thursday, August 27, 2020 9:44:50 AM

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Good Morning Briana,

I would like to add my comment to the fireworks portion of your meeting on Tuesday, September 8, 2020

My name is Melissa Dean, and my home is at 8306 Amber Drive SW. here in Lakewood.

I would like to comment to City Council **not** to impose any new ban on fireworks here in Lakewood. The currently allowed days, times and types of fireworks should remain in effect.

This year had been very disconnected socially however on July 4th and the Friday, Sunday of that weekend our neighbors put on a beautiful display of fireworks here in my neighborhood. It is the first time that I personally purchased fireworks too. The fireworks really made us feel connected again as we shared our appreciation over the phone to neighbors that we do know and on social media for the rest of our neighborhood and city.

It was a really uplifting weekend for us all.

I understand that some people in our community do continue fireworks after the accepted hours and some may use illegal fireworks however these people are breaking the law. These examples should not hinder the rights of law-abiding residents to continue to have fireworks on July 3, 4 and 5.

In 2021 July 4th is on a Sunday however in 2022 July 4th is on a Monday and this new imposed ban would limit fireworks to only that Monday night and, in 2023 fireworks would only be allowed on that July 4th Tuesday night *instead* of the night before the holiday when most people are likely to have the time to enjoy fireworks at home with thier families.

This suggested change would limit our ability to enjoy this holiday with our families & with our neighbors.

Please share my comment on Tuesday the 8th at your Counsil Meeting. I really appreciate it.

***Responding No, please do not change the current permitted days, times.***

***Under Lakewood Municipal Code, fireworks are currently permitted in the city between 11 a.m. and 11 p.m. on July 3, 4 and 5 and New Year's Eve. The proposed amendment before the City Council would further restrict the discharge of legal fireworks to July 4 between 11 a.m. and 11 p.m. and New Year's Eve only.***

Melissa Dean  
8306 Amber Drive SW  
Lakewood, WA 98498

Idean@klp.com  
650-771-3107

**From:** [jessih76](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Fireworks  
**Date:** Friday, August 28, 2020 2:31:09 PM

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Please ban them, we had debris all over our yard front, back and even on the roof. Very dangerous and not to mention with all the illegal fireworks its nerve rattling loud. Unsettling for dogs and our huge veteran population

I own a home in lake city neighborhood.  
Jessica Hughes

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone



SEP - 1 20

CITY OF  
LAKEWOOD

Dear Briana

Enclosed is a 4th testimony that I have written concerning a recent incident with which fireworks were involved. I respectfully request that this information be forwarded to the Lakewood City Council. I am fully aware of the Lakewood City Council virtual meeting on Sept 8th with sincere hopes that the City Council will get a chance to read my 4th testimony. I know that four testimonies are alot but I have been experiencing an on going problem concerning this matter and I just want to have my say. I am still open to meeting face to face with anyone from the Lakewood City government concerning this matter

Respectfully with Sincere Gratitude

Cal L. Stubbly

## To Whom It May Concern

## Testimony

I am Paul C. Stickley. I am a resident of Lakewood Wash. On the date of 20 Aug 2020 on or about the time of 11:00 pm, I heard a very loud explosion to the direct North of my residence. I am of the belief that the explosion came from the residence directly on the other side of the fence from the property I live on. I am also of the belief that the explosion came from an Improvised Explosive Device (I.E.D.). Upon hearing it, I went outside and walked North on 51st Avenue but saw nothing or heard nothing. I then walked South on 51st Avenue to the basketball court to ensure the lock on the gate was secure. I then walked West down 77th Street West and looked across the the fence of the Chinese Church of Tacoma to make sure there were no problems. As I was walking back down 51st Avenue West, to return to my residence, I could see through the fencing small explosions and heard what sounded like the repetitive sound of firecrackers. I could see no person or persons at that time. I did not report this to 911 or law enforcement at this time. I decided to wait and see if this was going to be an ongoing issue like it was ~~years~~ Past year in 2019 from 4 July 2019 to on or about November 2019. I am of the belief that, after the incident on 4 July 2019 in which I called 911 and could

not get through thus receiving no support, I figured that I would not receive any support concerning this matter. I am also of the belief that my neighbors and myself are owners on the property we live on, and will not receive any support from the City of Lakewood. I am fully aware of the fact that firecrackers are legal only on Native American reservations. I am fully aware that LEDs are illegal. I am also fully aware that fireworks by current Lakewood City regulation are only allowed on 3, 4, 5, July and 30, 31, Dec and 1 Jan between 11 am and 11 p.m. This incident took place on 20 August. I am fully aware that Lakewood City Council has had a virtual meeting on 20 July concerning restricting fireworks to 4 July and 31 Dec. There is also a virtual meeting on 8 Sept. In full support of this, I have written 3 testimonies. I have asked this question before on the post, I'm here to ask it again. How is this regulation going to be enforced and who is going to enforce it? Based on this experience and past experiences, I don't see anything going on that I would call enforcement.

This statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Paul Stork

29 Aug 2020,  
Lakewood Wash.

3 Sep 20

Mr. Simpson,

I am submitting this note as an addendum to my letter regarding the issue of banning the sale + use of fireworks in Lakewood.

During the previous City Council meeting on this topic Ms. Moss echoed the concern raised via "chat" by a PSAC member that a law could not be enforced. I find such an approach to be wholly unacceptable, as do most of my neighbors who have been plagued by this issue. I would hope that the Council's decision on the "rightness" or "wrongness" of a law would not be based on the presumption that enforcement might be a challenge. If that is the criteria, then we could save a great deal from our law enforcement budget by deconstructing current laws on DUI, DV, robbery + so forth, as our country's crime rate would suggest those laws are also a challenge to enforce. While we all



recognize that fireworks issues do not rise to the level of murder or rape, they are still a significant safety + quality of life issue for many of the City's citizens. Several days ago, nearly a full two months after July 4<sup>th</sup>, my entire neighborhood was awakened by fireworks at 0346. This remains a regular occurrence for us, on average at least two to three times weekly. Many of these events occur in the wee hours, disturbing sleep for those who must work or attend school the next day, and, in the middle of the night, resultant damage or fire could go unnoticed long enough to present a serious threat to life & property.

Please do not decide this matter based on the perceived enforcement challenge. DUI is also a challenge to enforce, but our law enforcement have found a way to tackle that issue. I'm confident they would be as creative in addressing fireworks in the short term, until enough jurisdictions have closed.



the loop to make private purchase +  
use of fireworks a thing of the past.

Thank you.

Al Gardue

**From:** [F. Leroy Read III](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Lakewood Fireworks  
**Date:** Friday, September 4, 2020 5:06:27 PM

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Hello Briana Schumacher,

I am writing to give my input regarding the issue of fireworks in the city of Lakewood, WA.

My input is that things are just fine the way they are.

I understand that the loud noises cause some citizens and their pets discomfort. The fact is though that we are located right next to a military base which regularly makes loud noises with weapons fire, which is at times and in many places louder than fireworks anyway. Additionally, between huge jets, and helicopters, there is almost always some loud noises of some sort coming from the base. Therefore the "noise" complaint holds no merit. It's noisy in Lakewood all the time, that's the price of living next to a military base.

The bottom line is that there is no excuse or reason to change laws restricting folks from celebrating the birth of our great nation just to satisfy a few disgruntled citizens. Realistically, this would only put a greater burden on our police force for them to respond to calls and complaints from all over the city. No matter the changes, folks are not going to stop using fireworks during this holiday. That is made obvious by the many folks putting on huge aerial displays every year. Every since I purchased my home here in Lakewood I have enjoyed sitting on my lawn on the 4th of July and watching the many fantastic fireworks displays lighting up the sky and celebrating our Independence. Any changes to current regulations will only cost the city money and heartache.

PLEASE LEAVE FIREWORKS REGULATIONS AS THEY NOW STAND.

Thanks so much.

***F. Leroy Read III***  
***Lakewood citizen, taxpayer, and home owner.***

**From:** [Malcolm Russell](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Lakewood Fireworks Code Comment  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 8, 2020 8:07:52 AM

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Re: Lakewood Fireworks Code Comment

Lakewood has 'booms' year round with the base and artillery if any town can handle fireworks limited to the 4th it's us that are tough enough to. So I encourage the city council to allow fireworks on the 4th and encourage responsibility.

Additionally lots of service clubs and sports teams in Lakewood fund their community programs via firework sales.

(Note: American Lake was named so ...because it was the location of one of the very first 4th of July celebrations in WA)



September 4, 2020

To the City of Lakewood,

I live by Fort Steilacoom Park. I am very concerned about the fireworks on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, New Years and the other 363 days of the year.

Fireworks are being shot off at all hours of the day and night, but mostly between 12:00 midnight and 4:00 in the morning and coming from the direction of the park. The night of 9/3/2020 the fireworks lasted about 20 minutes. So much for sleep the rest of the night. The evening of 9/4/2020 around 7:00PM, I'm watching fireworks being shot off around the neighborhood.

After a night or two of fireworks and staying up with garden hoses in hand, I then must pick up all the remains of the fireworks in my yard and on my roof.

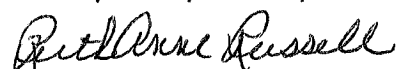
The fireworks not only disrupt people and their family pets but also the wildlife. The wildlife is run out of their habitat by the noise with no where to go but into the nearby neighborhoods. The family pets that are afraid of the noise, and not sedated and manage to get out, may be lucky enough to be picked up by Animal Control and taken to the Humane Society.

Lakewood has become very populated and the homes are being built closer together. It wouldn't take but one firework to set a couple of homes on fire and displace people even more.

In the early 1990's we saw what two fires did to the park. Trees were burned and cut down. The park wasn't useable for a while until the tree roots stopped burning and the burned grass grew back.

I would much rather see a designated "safe" place in Lakewood for fireworks to be set off where the Fire Department can monitor the area safely.

Thank you for your time,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ruth Anne Russell".

Ruth Anne Russell

**From:** [Sean Clonch](#)  
**To:** [Briana Schumacher](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed fireworks ban  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 8, 2020 2:17:03 PM

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*- helpdesk@cityoflakewood.us ext. 4357*

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To the Lakewood Council,

I have been a Lakewood resident since 1995 with the exception of a few short moves. I am writing today in regards to the proposed fireworks ban. As the law stands now, class C "safe and sane" fireworks are allowed at certain times in the city. This also includes sales of said fireworks. While loud, these fireworks are not really the ones who are responsible for fires. The legal ones that are, usually are being utilized improperly. If the safe fireworks stands are banned, people will go to the reservation for the "good stuff". Then I guarantee the fire situation will be way worse. Because let's face it, fireworks in Lakewood are a tradition and people will still light them off. I would much rather have the safe ones available to people. In addition, firework sales help fund many youth organizations. For example the Lakewood Jr Lancers youth football organization benefits greatly from firework sales including fees paid for underprivileged kids. In conclusion, a firework ban would be like a gun ban, all it will do is turn law abiding citizens into criminals.

I thank you for your time.

Sean Clonch

Facebook					
Timestamp	From	To	Text	Account	
			<p>REMINDER: There will be a public hearing at the Lakewood City Council meeting on September 8th on proposed code amendments related to fireworks.</p> <p>To learn about how to provide comment visit: <a href="https://cityoflakewood.us/notice-of-lakewood-city-council-public-hearing-regarding-fireworks-2/">https://cityoflakewood.us/notice-of-lakewood-city-council-public-hearing-regarding-fireworks-2/</a></p> <p>Fireworks have been under consideration by the City Council since early 2020. The City Council remains interested in all public input on this issue. Due to COVID-19, the public hearing originally scheduled for June 1, 2020 then rescheduled for July 20, 2020 were not held. All comments received to date have been included as part of the public record.</p>		
	City of Lakewood, Washington - Municipal				
8/25/2020 23:46	Government		NOTE: State law requires a year delay before any adopted ban can take effect.	City of Lakewood, Washington - Municipal Government	
8/26/2020 2:29	Joel Trauba		Keep the fireworks!!	City of Lakewood, Washington - Municipal Government	
8/26/2020 3:09	Sarrah McCrary		Just saying â€œfireworksâ€ is vague. What are the proposed changes? More info, please.	City of Lakewood, Washington - Municipal Government	
8/26/2020 4:16	Jody Pope		Keep ðŸŽ†ðŸŽ†	City of Lakewood, Washington - Municipal Government	
			Does anyone really think that changing the laws would stop them? They can be bought on any of the surrounding reservations and many towns. In my opinion its a waste of resources and time to even contemplate a change. Our police are stretched too thin already and having them address calls would take them away from real crime.		
8/26/2020 6:41	Holle Walker		I favor the ban but it will be ineffective.	City of Lakewood, Washington - Municipal Government	
8/27/2020 0:08	Burke Long		I can't be at the meeting so here is my input as a citizen of lakewood I vote no on the ban of fireworks, there is only twice a year that this may become an issue, I'll be more for safety classes to teach the citizens and take responsibility for the times they are used.	City of Lakewood, Washington - Municipal Government	
8/30/2020 17:06	Erika Grace				
Instagram		To	Text	Account	
Timestamp	From				
			<p>REMINDER: There will be a public hearing at the Lakewood City Council meeting on September 8th on proposed code amendments related to fireworks.</p> <p>To learn about how to provide comment visit: <a href="https://cityoflakewood.us/notice-of-lakewood-city-council-public-hearing-regarding-fireworks-2/">https://cityoflakewood.us/notice-of-lakewood-city-council-public-hearing-regarding-fireworks-2/</a></p> <p>Fireworks have been under consideration by the City Council since early 2020. The City Council remains interested in all public input on this issue. Due to COVID-19, the public hearing originally scheduled for June 1, 2020 then rescheduled for July 20, 2020 were not held. All comments received to date have been included as part of the public record.</p>		
8/25/2020 23:46	City of Lakewood, WA, cityoflakewoodwa		NOTE: State law requires a year delay before any adopted ban can take effect; assuming a ban is adopted, it will not take effect until after September, 2021.	cityoflakewoodwa	
8/26/2020 6:45	06_mz6_v6_trish		You're kidding me right? ðŸŒˆ~ðŸŒˆ~ðŸŒˆ~	cityoflakewoodwa	
8/26/2020 6:46	06_mz6_v6_trish		@seattlefan93 check this out	cityoflakewoodwa	
9/3/2020 4:29	seattlefan93		@06_mz6_v6_trish ðŸŒˆ	cityoflakewoodwa	



City of Lakewood, Washington - Municipal Government ...

9h · 🌐

REMINDER: There will be a public hearing at the Lakewood City Council meeting TODAY (September 8th) on proposed code amendments related to fireworks at 7:00 p.m.

To learn more about ways to provide public comment visit:

<https://cityoflakewood.us/notice-of-lakewood-city-council-public-hearing-regarding-fireworks-2/>

Fireworks have been under consideration by the City Council since early 2020. The City Council remains interested in all public input on this issue. Due to COVID-... [See More](#)



1,424

People Reached

288

Engagements

[Boost Post](#)



Wendy Scott  
Ban them



3

...

Like · Reply · Message · 6h



Sean Clonch  
Wendy Scott move.

...

Like · Reply · Message · 5h



Wendy Scott  
Sean Clonch too late, I just refinanced 😊

...



1

Like · Reply · Message · 3h



Sean Clonch  
Wendy Scott then deal with it

...

Like · Reply · Message · 3h



Wendy Scott  
Sean Clonch Instead of trolling maybe go to the meeting and express yourself to the people making the decision 🤔

...



1

Like · Reply · Message · 3h



Sean Clonch  
Wendy Scott gotta work.

...

Like · Reply · Message · 3h



Angilo Folgado  
Wendy Scott Why?

...

Like · Reply · Message · 1h



Daniel Fisk Bennett

I say the whole state should levy a 200% tax on all fireworks and donate all tax collected to the wounded warriors that deal with PTSD and have to live through this shit every year.

...

Ban Daniel Fisk Bennett · Unhide · Message · 8h



Lavita Lester

I hope Lakewood will consider allowing fireworks on the 4th of July. I fully support restrictions on the number of days and times discharge of fireworks is allowed. Lakewood is a very patriotic town with a long history of being different from our neighboring cities. Please consider keeping Lakewood a little different. Please encourage citizens to be responsible so we don't end up like some other city.

...

Like · Reply · Message · 5h



1



Erika Grace

I don't care either way the only thing I'm concerned is that firework sales helps many local native American communities, I've met families that support themselves just on the sales that happen only twice a year.

...

Like · Reply · Message · 9h



6



Fred Shackleford  
It's the sounds of FREEDOM!

Like · Reply · Message · 9h



Daniel Fisk Bennett

Know what that sounds like to me? Wasted money that could be better spent elsewhere. You want to be a patriot, how about you donate to the VA... Stop pretending to be a patriot. Put your money where your mouth is and show that you appreciate the peopl... [See More](#)

Like · Reply · Message · 8h · Edited



Angilo Folgado

Daniel Fisk Bennett Actually it's not a waste of money on Fireworks period first off. I want you to take a moment and imagine what it was like to be in the Revolutionary Wars. All of a sudden you are in a battle field filled with soldiers firing cannons and shooting their guns because of how much despair the colonies with Great Britain was experiencing. Your going to tell me that wasting money on Fireworks should not be an option then you should go back to your history books. I'm serious. These people died so that you would have a simple great life in the United States. Why don't you go and live in other countries and then tell us whether or not we should waste our money on Fireworks? All I see in Fireworks was that it represents the signing of the Declaration of Independence from Great Britain. So yeah go ahead and say that to all of the people who agree with you on CNNs, NPRs, CNBCs Facebook pages, etc

Like · Reply · Message · 1h · Edited



Andrew Kruse

Sure let's make more rules that won't be enforced because the police aren't up to their necks in other things

...



Like · Reply · Message · 8h



Judit ZP

Ban them! People proved again and again that they can't be trusted to follow the law, and only light them up around the 4th.

...

Like · Reply · Message · 7h



Top Fan

Joel Trauba

Keep the fireworks booming! Only place to enjoy the show now.

...



Like · Reply · Message · 6h





Jessica Hughes  
Ban them please



1

...

Like · Reply · Message · 5h



Sean Clonch  
Jessica Hughes move

...

Like · Reply · Message · 5h



Reply as City of Lakewood, Washingt...



Patricia A Rose

People are way out of control with firework celebration, it's like a rocking war zone. we need to get back to good ole 4Th July celebrations and professional display.

...

Like · Reply · Message · 27m



Jen Doe

If it was just 1-2 days a year, that's one thing...however, folks are STILL lighting them off in September. Overall, people are not responsible enough...too many are lit off after 11pm and months before and after July 4th. Enough is enough. There are plenty of other counties and cities who have completely banned fireworks and there is not an issue....people get their sleep, animals don't have freak-outs over the noises, folks with PTSD aren't aggravated, the large risk of burning due to dead grass, and less chance of injury should far outweigh a few minutes of brief satisfaction. Fireworks, by the way, are typically NOT made in America (for all you xenophobes out there). Want to honor America? How about enlist in the military! How about volunteer in the community to help improve! How about fly a flag! How about go meet your neighbors! Why not create an art mural showing soldier sacrifice and love for country! There are much better, more efficient, safer ways to celebrate being an American then these dangerous, momentary displays of light.

...

Like · Reply · Message · 8h



7

Like · Reply · Message



Sean Clonch

Jen Doe then move to where they are banned. \*\*\*

Like · Reply · Message · 3h



Jen Doe

Sean no thanks! I LOVE my home and my community where I work and volunteer to make it a better place. I don't run away from issues-I do what I can to make my community better for everyone. Maybe you should work on being more empathetic. \*\*

Like · Reply · Message · 3h · Edited



1



Sean Clonch

Jen Doe its 3 days a year, GET OVER IT. \*\*\*

Like · Reply · Message · 3h



Jen Doe

Sean that is the problem. It is NOT 3 days of the year. It is pretty much 50%-100% of the days/nights in June, 100% of the days/nights in July, 50%-100% of the days/nights in August. There were fireworks that woke my family up at 2am this past weekend (September). It will start again for New Years. People are not responsible enough....and clearly not empathetic enough. \*\*

Like · Reply · Message · 3h



1

Like · Reply · Message · 3h



Sean Clonch

Jen Doe if you ban the safe and sane fireworks people will go to the reservation for the crazy stuff. The legal stuff is loud but its not the stuff causing fires. Then it will be way worse. So go ahead and be a Karen and see where that gets the city.

...

Like · Reply · Message · 3h



Jen Doe

2 years ago the "safe" stuff caused a fire next to the disc golf course. Further, show me the proof that is what folks will go to the reservations to buy fireworks at Albertsons-in an amount that outweighs the amount of fireworks we already have. Also ... [See More](#)

...

Like · Reply · Message · 3h



Sean Clonch

Jen Doe ok, Karen

...

Like · Reply · Message · 2h



Jen Doe

KIDS: Stay in school! 🤪🤪🤪

...

Like · Reply · Message · 2h



Sean Clonch

Jen Doe ok, Karen. You are the epitome of a Karen.

...

Like · Reply · Message · 2h



Christopher Michael Escobedo

First I like to State that you are living in occupied Native American land. As a Native American Chicano I can tell you that this is my Motherland and I am a real patriot of my Motherland. Fireworks are an American pastime and we shouldn't let Europeans change that. Thank you for you Patriotism toward my Homeland and have a pleasant evening.

...

Like · Reply · Message · 8h · Edited



1



Shu Meiguohaijun

Ban them. They are disruptive to domestic animals, people with PTSD and other disabilities, the environment, including wildlife, and now with the wildfires from CA with the additional smoke, we don't need these fireworks.

...

Like · Reply · Message · 9h · Edited



14



Fred Shackleford

Shu Meiguohaijun for a REAL American it's the noise of FREEDOM!!! For two or three days you'll serve dear.

...

Like · Reply · Message · 9h



5



Shu Meiguohaijun

Oh the irony! I cannot help but laugh at the obvious misogyny and to question my patriotism simply for this stance on fireworks. That is some reach, there. Thank you for the humor as I nearly spit out my coffee upon reading this comment.

...

Like · Reply · Message · 9h



1



Fred Shackleford

Shu Meiguohaijun Your not an American are you? Or did you give up your citizenship somewhere along the way?

...

Like · Reply · Message · 9h



1



Shu Meiguohaijun

First off, it's "you're"

And you are making this assumption because of my name here on FB?

...

I can see your racism is shining right through.

Like · Reply · Message · 9h

Like · Reply · Message · 9h



Daniel Fisk Bennett

Fred Shackleford I was just curious what you meant by "real Americans"...

Are you talking about native Americans? Because I'm pretty sure they would have some pretty choice words for that statement. By the way, who taught you spelling and grammar? **The American Education System Strikes Again!**

You know, you remind me of the typical conservative septogenarian baby boomer; privileged, and conflates patriotism with racism and ignorance. Let me guess, you voted for the orange orangutan that has an IQ roughly the same as a kernel of corn, right?



Like · Reply · Message · 8h · Edited



Sean Clonch

If you dont like them, then move.



Like · Reply · Message · 8h · Edited



David Adams

Maybe train your animals better, or move to a neighborhood that is quieter Karen

...

Like · Reply · Message · 8h



Daniel Fisk Bennett

David Adams or you could stop being a wannabe and actually be a real patriot and either serve your country or donate that money wasted on fireworks instead to the veterans that served this country and are now debilitated because of it. Just a thought there Chad...

...

Like · Reply · Message · 8h · Edited



Jose Romero

Time to make someone mad

...

Like · Reply · Message · 7h



Jamie Kowatch

Fireworks are incredibly well known to traumatize animals and our veterans. How about we all take into consideration the needs of those around us, and support them by limiting fireworks to actual holidays? Or even better yet, considering how they can cause fires, keep the fireworks to the pros & all non-pro fireworks are made illegal.

...

Like · Reply · Message · 7h



Daniel Fisk Bennett

Just tell them ANTIFA is stockpiling them and all these star spangled pretend patriotic Americans will turn 180° and be all in favor of it. #psychology

...

Like · Reply · Message · 7h



Sean Clonch

Jamie Kowatch yea that attempt at banning fireworks backfired when another town tried it and all the vets came together and called bullshit.

...

Like · Reply · Message · 5h



Malcolm Russell

Re: Lakewood Fireworks Code Comment:

Lakewood has 'booms' year round with the base and artillery if any town can handle fireworks limited to the 4th it's us that are tough enough to. So I encourage the city council to allow fireworks on the 4th of July and encourage responsibility.

...

Additionally lots of service clubs and sports teams in Lakewood fund their community programs via firework sales.

(Note: American Lake was named so ...because it was the location of one of the very first 4th of July celebrations in WA)

Like · Reply · Message · 6h








TO: Mayor and City Councilmembers

FROM: Dave Bugher, Assistant City Manager, Development Services

THROUGH: John J. Caulfield, City Manager 

DATE: September 21, 2020

SUBJECT: VISION 2050 Population and Housing Projections

---

Pierce County has initiated the process to adopt new Growth Management Act (GMA) population and housing targets. This action is being pursued in an effort to comply with the Puget Sound Regional Council's VISION 2050.

On January 16, 2020, the Executive Board received the Growth Management Policy Board's (GMPB) recommended draft VISION 2050 plan (December 2019). Action by the Executive Board on VISION 2050 was delayed due to COVID-19 and restrictions on in-person meetings. The Executive Board met in July to continue discussing VISION 2050. At its September 24, 2020 meeting, the Executive Board will consider amendments to the GMPB Recommended draft and take action to recommend adoption to PSRC's General Assembly. The General Assembly is tentatively scheduled to meet virtually on October 29, 2020.

The last time Pierce County updated its targets was in 2016 and 2017. Attached to this memorandum is a PowerPoint presentation that discusses updated population and housing projections for Lakewood. The purposes of the presentation are threefold. The first, to acquaint the City Council with the allocation process. The second, to provide the City Council with information on different growth rates. And the third, to seek an early or preliminary consensus from the City Council on projected growth.

# **VISION 2050 LAKEWOOD POPULATION & HOUSING PROJECTIONS**

**LAKEWOOD CITY COUNCIL  
SEPTEMBER 21, 2020**

# HERE'S THE SETTING...

- Washington has the 8th fastest growth rate in the country and has grown by about a million people each decade since 1990.
- Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) has provided new growth projections as part of their regional growth plan called VISION 2050.
- PSRC is projecting 1.8 million more residents and 1.2 million more jobs.
- Pierce County is expected to take 21% (264,784 persons) of the projected growth, for a total county population of 1,165,484 by 2044.
- Of the 264,784 persons, Pierce County's "Core Cities" (including Auburn, Lakewood, Puyallup and University Place), are assumed to collectively absorb 60,900 of the 264,784 persons (23%.)
- **The exercise is to determine Lakewood's share of the 60,900 number.**

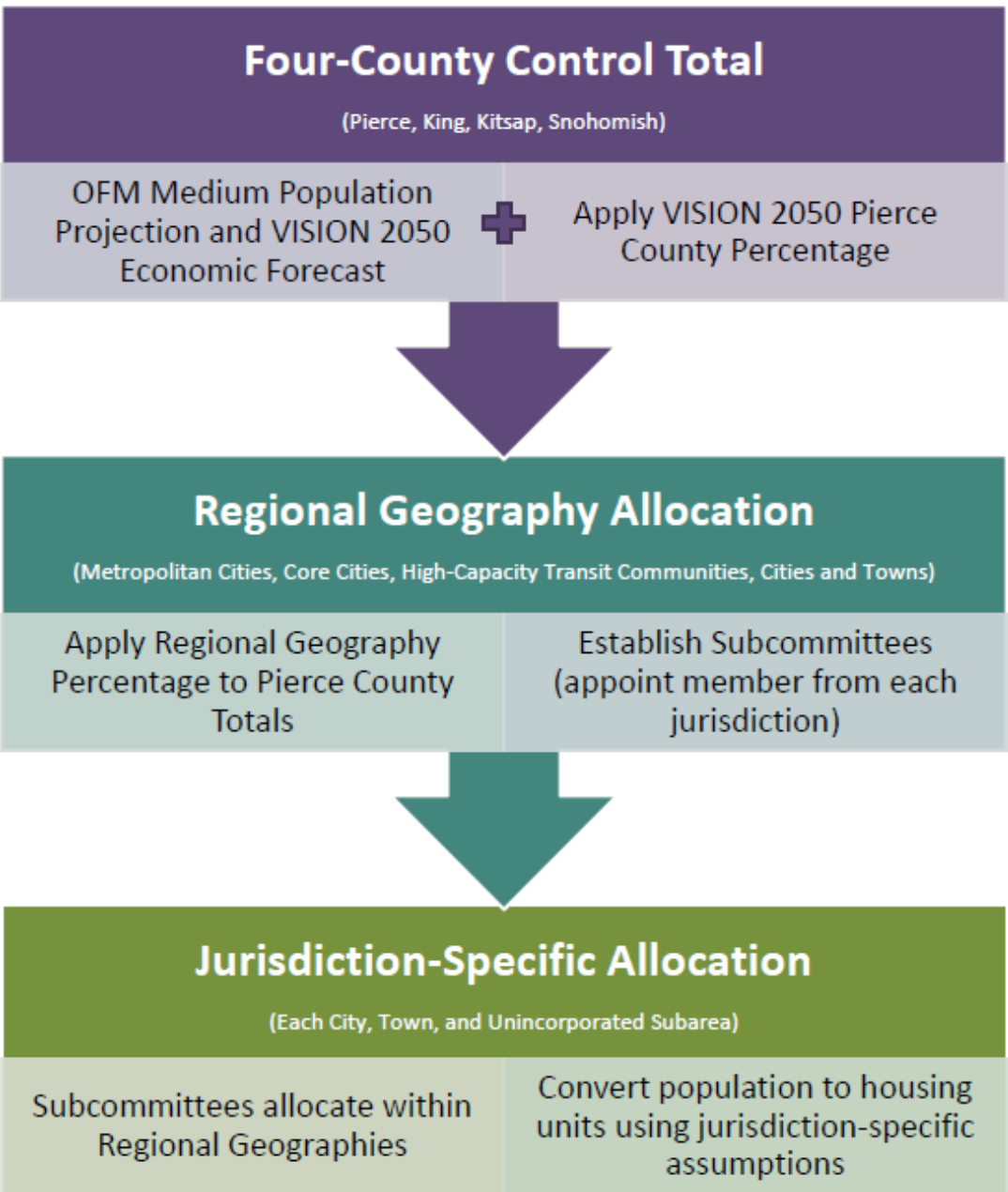
# HERE'S THE PROCESS...

- County and cities placed in subcategories for population and employment allocations

Metropolitan Cities	Core Cities	High-Capacity Transit (HCT) Communities	Cities and Towns	Unincorporated Urban	Unincorporated Rural
38% population	23% population	21% population	7% population	8% population	3% population
48% employment	23% employment	15% employment	6% employment	6% employment	2% employment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tacoma</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Auburn (part)</li> <li>Lakewood</li> <li>Puyallup</li> <li>University Place</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DuPont</li> <li>Fife</li> <li>Fircrest</li> <li>Mid-County (urban part)</li> <li>Parkland-Spanaway-Midland PAA</li> <li>South Hill PIA</li> <li>Sumner</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bonney Lake</li> <li>Buckley</li> <li>Carbonado</li> <li>Eatonville</li> <li>Edgewood</li> <li>Gig Harbor</li> <li>Milton (part)</li> <li>Orting</li> <li>Pacific (part)</li> <li>Roy</li> <li>Ruston</li> <li>South Prairie</li> <li>Steilacoom</li> <li>Wilkeson</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remainder</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rural</li> </ul>

# AND THERE'S MORE PROCESS...

- County and city representatives develop recommended jurisdiction-specific allocations for adoption by Pierce County Council





# NUMBERS-WISE, IT LOOKS LIKE THIS...

By 2040 -	
PSRC Region	1,800,000
Pierce County's share	264,784
Core Cities' total share	60,900
What is Lakewood's share?	?



## WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

- PSRC is the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) that covers Snohomish, King, Kitsap, and Pierce counties.
- The basic purpose of an MPO is to ensure regional cooperation in transportation planning. The MPO allocates federal dollars for regional transportation projects.
- The role of PSRC has expanded in the last 10-years to also include comprehensive planning. **Now, in order to receive federal transportation dollars from PSRC, all GMA cities' Comprehensive Plans must be "certified" as consistent with VISION (the region's multicounty planning policies) by PSRC.**
- An ongoing concern: King County, because of its larger population, controls important PSRC policy making decisions over the other three counties.

# WHAT IS LAKEWOOD'S CURRENT TARGET POPULATION?

Per Pierce County Ordinance 2017-24s:



- Starting in 2020, Lakewood's population is set at 60,030\*.
- Each year, from 2020 through 2030, Lakewood is projected to add 1,197 persons, or about 503 units per year (assuming 2.38 persons per household).
- Thus, by 2030, Lakewood has a population target of **72,000**.

\*The April 1, 2020 Office of Financial Management population allocation to Lakewood is also 60,030.



# 2020 POPULATION ALLOCATION PROCESS



Pierce County hired AHBL to facilitate the 2020 process by which the County and cities will be determining future population allocations.

As a starting point and *first calculation*, based on the Lakewood's projected target 2030 population of 72,000, AHBL carried the same growth rate through to 2044 *assuming no growth policy changes*.

“Based on an 1,197 person annual growth rate, Lakewood would see an increase of 16,758 persons, for a total population of **88,758** in 2044.”

## 2014 BUILDABLE LANDS POPULATION ALLOCATION -

AHBL also provided a *second calculation* on “population capacity” based on the Pierce County 2014 Buildable Lands Report (14BLR.)

“Lakewood’s 14BLR housing capacity is 34,824 units, which translates into a population capacity number of 80,488. That number is *8,270 less than* the total projected growth of 88,758.”

What does this mean?

- ✓ Based on current buildable land assumptions, Lakewood’s maximum growth is set at 80,488, *unless the City changes growth policies, and among other things, increases density.*

# NEXT STEP, LET'S EXAMINE SEVERAL LAKEWOOD POPULATION PROJECTION SCENARIOS

Four examples:

- ❖ 0.5% growth rate
- ❖ 1.0% growth rate
- ❖ 1.5% growth rate
- ❖ Actual forecasted growth based on historic growth patterns (with no changes to policy)

# POPULATION COMPARISONS USING 3 DIFFERENT GROWTH RATES (POPULATION IN RED/HOUSING IN BLUE)

Year	0.5 Percent Population Growth	0.5 Percent Housing Growth	1.0 Percent Population Growth	1.0 Percent Housing Growth	1.5 Percent Population Growth	1.5 Percent Housing Growth
2020	60,030	25,349	60,030	25,349	60,030	25,349
2025	61,546	25,860	63,092	26,509	64,669	27,172
2030	63,100	26,513	66,310	27,862	69,667	29,272
2035	64,693	27,182	69,693	29,283	75,051	31,534
2040	66,327	27,868	73,248	30,776	80,852	33,971
2044	67,663	28,430	76,222	32,026	85,813	36,056

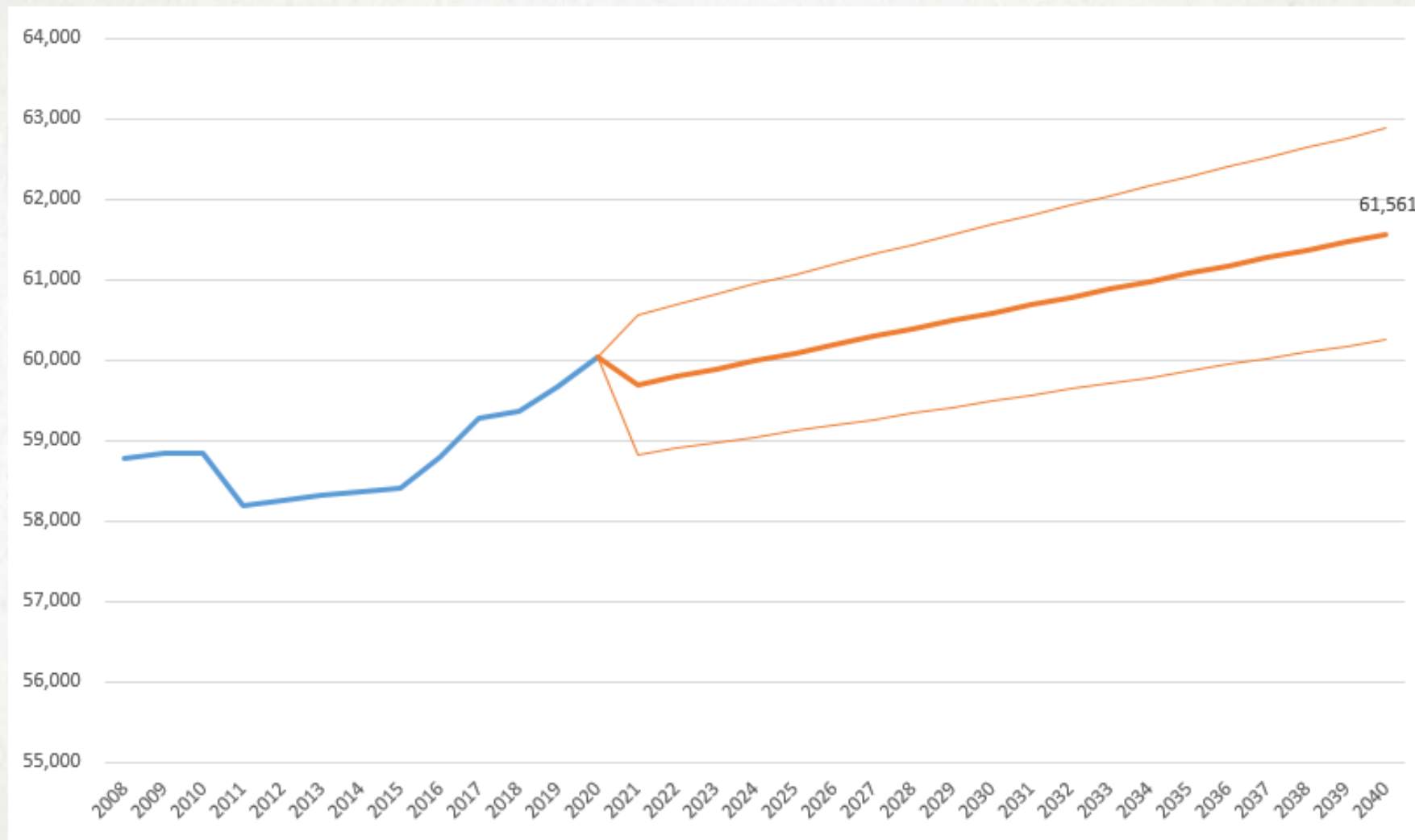
# SUMMARY OF INCREASES IN POPULATION & HOUSING NUMBERS, 2020 THROUGH 2044

Years 2020 & 2044 + Analysis	0.5 percent growth rate		1.0 percent growth rate		1.5 percent growth rate	
	New Population	New housing	New Population	New housing	New Population	New housing
2020	60,030	25,349	60,030	25,349	60,030	25,349
2044	67,663	28,430	76,222	32,026	85,813	36,056
Difference between 2020 & 2044	7,633	3,081	16,192	6,677	25,783	10,707
Average increases per year	318	128	675	278	1,074	446

Using 2.37 PPH assumption

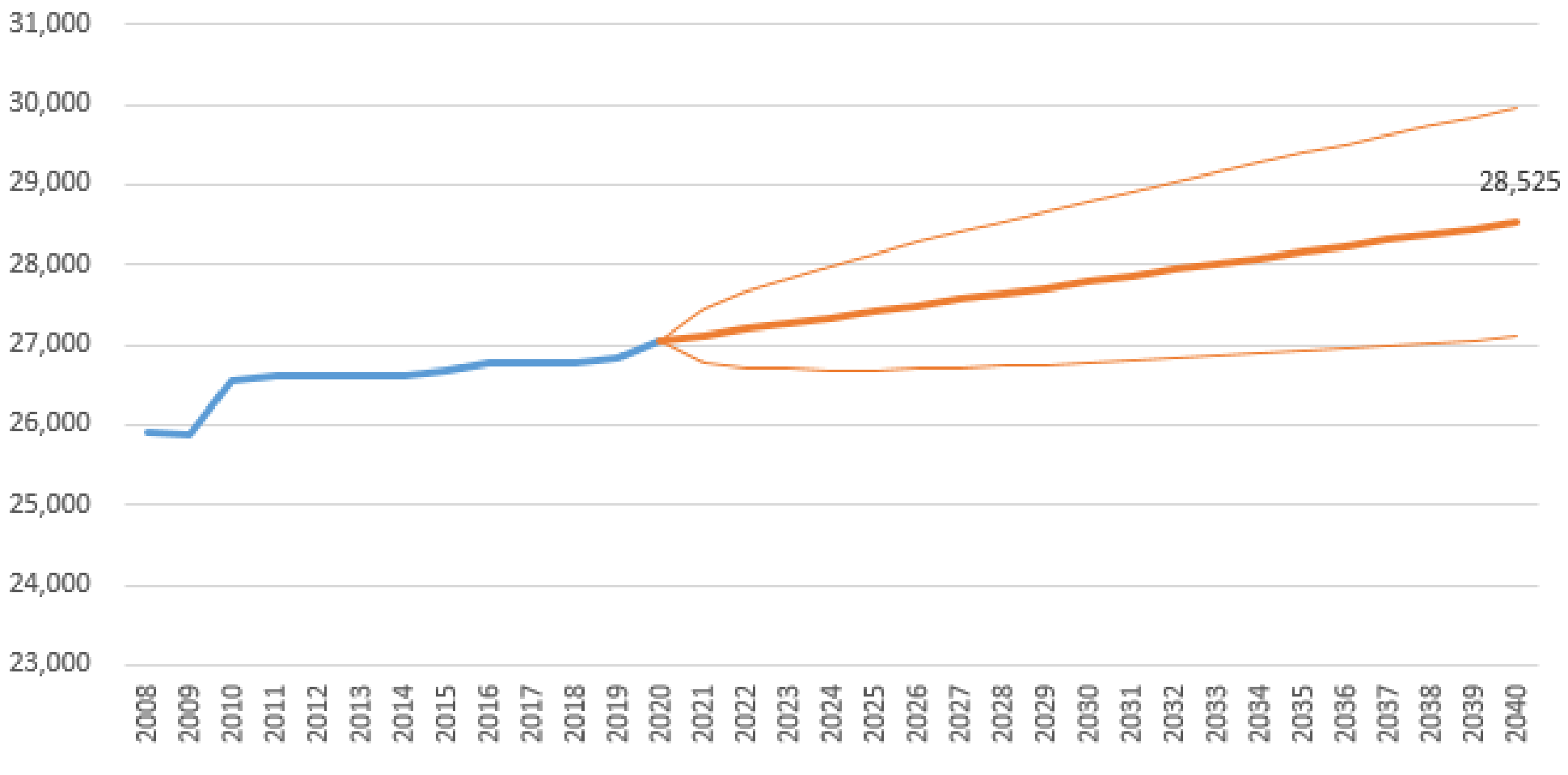


# LAKEWOOD POPULATION FORECASTING 2008 TO 2040



61,561

# LAKEWOOD HOUSING FORECASTING 2008 TO 2040



28,525

## HOW DOES LAKEWOOD'S POPULATION GROWTH RATES COMPARE TO THE CORE CITIES' SHARE OF 60,900?

Growth Rate (2044 est. population)	Net population /60,300	Percent of Core Cities' 60,300 share
0.5 percent (67,633)	7,633/60,300	13 percent
1.0 percent (76,222)	16,192/60,300	27 percent
1.5 percent (85,813)	26,783/60,300	48 percent
Forecasted population (63,030)	3,000/60,300	5 percent



# ANY UNIQUE ASPECTS IN LAKEWOOD THAT INHIBIT INFILL/REDEVELOPMENT? **YES!**

Lakewood's total area is 12,127 acres. Of that amount, certain land uses play a significant role in reducing development capacity.

Use-Types Limiting Development Capacity	Acreage	Percent of 12,127 acres
Public institutional* (Western State Hospital, Pierce College, Clover Park Technical College, St. Clare Hospital, Clover Park School District properties, Sound Transit and Pierce Transit properties, and city-owned properties)	2,442	20 percent
Lakes*	1,700	14 percent
Open Space lands	1,520	13 percent
Air Corridor plus Clear Zone*	637	5 percent
Military Lands*	25	0.2 percent
<b>Total of Lakewood Land Unavailable/Limited Availability for Development</b>	<b>6,324</b>	<b>52 percent</b>

\*Some or all unique to Lakewood. All GMA planning jurisdictions have to designate open space lands.

# WHY IS LAKEWOOD'S GROWTH RATE SLOW?

- Lakewood is a built-out community, not much vacant land. Land assembly and demolition are required, which is expensive.
- Existing infrastructure does not exist or is in need of replacement.
- Site contamination.
- Lakewood is not a full-service city/requires a high level of coordination (six different agencies - Pierce County Public Works, Lakewood Water District, West Pierce Fire & Rescue, & three different power purveyors).
- Public agency policy conflicts. (i.e., each agency approaches client services differently.)
- Infill parcels are often smaller & irregular in size, & have a unique set of constraints.
- Infill development is not popular within established neighborhoods.

# WHAT SHOULD LAKEWOOD'S 2044 POPULATION TARGET BE?

**Recommendation:** Use a 0.5 percent assumed growth rate, and round up to 68,000; however, recognizing that the forecasted population may only reach 63,000.

- ❑ A 2044 Lakewood population of 68,000 represents a net increase of 7,970 persons, which is 13 percent of the total population for Core Cities.
- ❑ That means Auburn, Puyallup, and University Place would need to make-up the difference for the remaining 87 percent of the Core City population, or 52,930 persons ( $60,900 - 7,970 = 52,930$ ).
- ❑ Based on the outcome of Core City allocation process, any residual population not allocated to Core Cities could be disbursed to other cities or unincorporated Pierce County.

# AS OF RIGHT NOW, WHAT DOES THE CITY COUNCIL NEED TO DO?

For the moment, nothing. However, regard this presentation as a notification of things to come.

- ❑ Pierce County Core Cities are to make an initial report out to Pierce County in mid-November regarding their positions on the two relevant population allocation proposals provided by the consultant in August 2020.
- ❑ The results of this meeting will be reported to the City Council November/December 2020.
- ❑ Through 2020 and 2021, the Growth Management Coordination Committee (GMCC) and the Pierce County Regional Council (PCRC) will meet and forward recommendations to the Pierce County Council for adoption.
- ❑ City Council may be asked to adopt a resolution formally adopting projected population, housing, and employment allocations/targets.
- ❑ The Pierce County Council is scheduled to take action on new population, housing and employment targets to replace Ordinance 2017-24s in mid-2021.



**QUESTIONS?  
COMMENTS?**