
From: Twiford, Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, June 21, 2023 7:13 AM
To: Campfield, Lisa
Subject: FW: Today's County Council meeting

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Not quite sure why I'm getting all the Firework related stuff for Council this week but here's another one.

Taylor Twiford | *Administrative Assistant*
Snohomish County Planning and Development Services
Taylor.Twiford@snoco.org | 425.388.7119
she/her
Hours: Mon-Thurs 7:00 AM to 5:30 PM

From: Doris Fulton <fultondl@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 20, 2023 7:10 PM
To: Mead, Jared <Jared.Mead@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Dunn, Megan <Megan.Dunn@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Peterson, Strom <Strom.Peterson@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Low, Sam <Sam.Low@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Nehring, Nate <nate.nehring@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Twiford, Taylor <Taylor.Twiford@co.snohomish.wa.us>; cc: Chan, David <dchan@southsnofire.org>; Hynes, Leslie <lhynes@southsnofire.org>; kurlykate888@gmail.com; Linda Gray <lg899a@gmail.com>; mvfields@me.com; Eric Adman <snokingwatershedcouncil@gmail.com>; Streamkeeper, Tom <Tomm@streamkeeper.org>; James Walsh <jamesrwalsh@outgun.com>
Subject: Today's County Council meeting

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

I feel that it is a mistake to table the proposal to allow for time to study the adverse effects of fireworks on the lives of the individuals living in unincorporated south Snohomish County. The Council members do not live in an area such as mine. I live a block from the Refuge Church that permits the sale of fireworks on its property. My husband and I are in our 70s and I have a rescue dog. One time my husband was going out our front door and was nearly hit in the face by a bottle rocket that the neighbor across the street had lit. In the past we were apprehensive that our house might burn down when the area suffered from a drought and the neighbor had dead plants hanging from his gutters and bottle rockets were landing on our roofs. My neighbor called the sheriff this past 4th of July to report her neighbors who were letting off bombs. They received a warning at best and the fireworks continued even though they are illegal. Fireworks are sold and deployed in our neighborhood even though their use is banned.

Do you think that we could exchange residences this coming up 4th? I too would like to live in an area where the use and sale of fireworks are banned.

Sincerely,
Doris Fulton

20629 23rd Ave. West
Lynnwood, WA 98036

From: Cathy Ferbrache <cathyferb@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 22, 2023 5:34 PM
To: Contact Council
Subject: No Fireworks

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

Please no fireworks in Snohomish County! Every year at North Creek Forest critters are traumatized b the unrelenting smoke and deafening explosions.

Dogs, cats, birds, human's don't need to blow things up to celebrate the4th.

Thankfully we've had rain to ward against FIRES.

Cathy

Sent from my iPhone

From: Linda Gray <lg899a@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 23, 2023 3:16 PM
To: Low, Sam; Contact Council
Cc: Peterson, Strom; Twiford, Taylor; cc: Chan, David; Somers, Dave J; Hynes, Leslie; Kate Lunceford; Marjorie Fields; Eric Adman; Streamkeeper, Tom; James Walsh; William Lider; fultondl@gmail.com; Nelson Kurt (knelson@tulaliptribes-nsn.gov); Joan Thomas; dennis hill; Deborah L Wetzel; Tom Campbell; Joan Smith; Everett Herald Newshound; Thompson, Joshua; Cat Gustafson; Tina Stewart; windsorparkNeighbors
Subject: Ban All Fireworks in Snohomish County effective 7/4/25
Attachments: 2019-06-18 Herald Editorial on Fireworks Ban.pdf; Fireworks - Guy Palumbo response.pdf

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

Dear Snohomish County Council Members - Please create an ordinance banning fireworks in **all of Snohomish County** that will go into effect on July 4, 2025. As a King County Council member states, "...People in unincorporated King County deserve the same protections as those living in cities." Those of us in Unincorporated Snohomish County deserve the same.

[What to know about firework bans in Washington | KOMO \(komonews.com\)](#) "The investigators and police officers no longer have to look and say, 'is this something that is legal or not legal?'" Puget Sound Regional Fire Authority Capt. Kyle Ohashi said. "It's all illegal now so that makes the job for the police and fire departments a little bit easier."

[All fireworks banned in unincorporated King County starting next year | KOMO \(komonews.com\)](#) *"It is past time for King County to do what most cities and parks have already done," he said. "People in unincorporated King County deserve the same protections as those living in cities."*

The following from NextDoor gives a good summary of what we deal with each year and how King County addressed it -

https://nextdoor.com/p/fR_K3YB6fWQ4?utm_source=share&extras=NjU5ODAyNQ%3D%3D

Carol Welch North Wellington • 22 Oct 21 "Discharge of fireworks in unincorporated Snohomish Co. On Saturday evening 10/16 a (newer) neighbor decided to discharge fireworks while I was bringing my 3 horses into the barn for the night, at 8:30pm. Their backyard is separated from my barn by a very narrow backyard of another neighbor. My horses were just about to enter the barn, with me directly behind the last horse, when the "show" started. In their surprise and panic, I was knocked to the ground but avoided being trampled by rolling under a fence. In the short breaks between discharges, I managed to get them into their stalls (it helps that they knew there was hay waiting), went outside to the front of the barn and literally screamed at the top of my lungs in-between discharges to STOP IT NOW. They didn't stop. My horses were very scared, this was far louder and closer than they are used to, not to mention I do alot of prep prior to EXPECTED fireworks (on 7/4 and 12/31) to mitigate noise and visuals (including tranquilizers). I quickly drove to the neighbors, and interrupted their party (yes, with my hair on fire....). The repercussions of this event is 1) my younger horse whose stall window (un-shuttered at the time) was exposed to the visual explosions, will not willingly go into her stall now, and panics when she is in it, (sadly a place where she used to feel the safest); and 2) I have a black-purple bruise and knot

the size of a grapefruit on my hip. I could have been very badly hurt, or worse (BTW, I'm 65yrs old, have had horses for 53yrs, and at this home specifically for the past 28+yrs). ...”

“...And when trying to soothe a petrified, sweat-soaked, 1200lb horse with my arms around his neck, trust me.... it's hell. I haven't enjoyed a July 4 friends and family event at my home in 20yrs, as the pyro has gotten worse and worse. Celebrate the 4th? Not at my home....only celebration is when it stops. “

[Sylvia Schultz](#) [Cottage Lake](#) [22 Oct 21](#)

“Gosh, that was so dangerous to you and your horses. I'm so sorry that happened. You may already know, for unincorporated King County, our council passed a ban on fireworks this year to take effect in 2022. Two individuals shooting off mortars and rockets for hours, causing harm and terror thru our neighborhood of 100s of homes, full of families with new babies and seniors, pets and a few horses, tired and healing people, and many working diligently from home. Testimony during the hearings was chilling: the phrase used by some for their neighborhood was "war zone," a home burned down (will not say what happened--too horrible--google if you want), and fire chiefs accounted for a cost per fire district of \$1m annually of your tax dollars to respond to injuries and fires. Call your elected officials now. Call candidates for your council and fire service to ID who WILL defend your neighborhood from an explosive ordinance that one senior fire chief literally testified were "IEDs" (improvised explosive devices). It is a tradeoff -- risk your safety, pets and stock, and home and private property and create an avoidable public expense OR allow a few callus individuals their "fun" and support profit-seeking fireworks dealers. I'm proud of our county officials who voted for this ordinance. Not Lambert though, my council member, she voted against it.”

Thank you - Linda Gray, Unincorporated SC



Fireworks were the suspected cause of a fire that damaged two homes in Lake Stevens last year around July 4. (Lake Stevens Fire District)

IN OUR VIEW

Editorial: Heed south county fire officials on fireworks ban

A fireworks ban could limit damage and injuries that occur too often this time of year.

Tuesday, June 18, 2019 1:30am | [OPINION](#) [IN OUR VIEW](#)

By The Herald Editorial Board

Following the Continental Congress' vote in July 1776 in favor of the Declaration of Independence, Founding Father John Adams wrote his wife Abigail that the day should be celebrated each year with "pomp and parade ... games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires and illuminations from one end of this continent to the other."

Regarding the "bonfires and illuminations," we're guessing Adams wasn't having to pay much of a premium on his homeowner's insurance, otherwise he might have had a different opinion regarding fireworks, at least those in the hands of his neighbors.

Many Snohomish County residents, however, do have to consider insurance payments and the risk for fires, the nuisance of noise — especially for pets — and other impacts from the annual flash, boom and sizzle of consumer fireworks in our Fourth of July celebrations.

A frequent topic of discussion and proposed ordinances for the county and local cities has returned with a petition to the Snohomish County Council from Sound County Fire officials who want the council to bar the sale and use of fireworks in neighborhoods outside of city limits of Everett, Lynnwood and other south county cities, as The Herald's Noah Haglund reported Sunday.

South County Fire is using a provision in a [2016 ordinance](#) passed by the council that allows for neighborhood-specific fireworks bans. The neighborhood bans require a petition of 51 percent of registered voters in neighborhoods of 50 or more homes or an area of at least a square mile. To date, the county has received no such petitions, but the ordinance also allows for fire districts and authorities to submit the request.

The county council has scheduled the issue for its June 26 meeting and could set a hearing in coming weeks. Even if adopted, the ban wouldn't take effect until 2021's July 4 celebrations; state law delays implementation of such ordinances for a year if they are more restrictive than state regulation.

The ban would not apply to unincorporated areas in the north end of the county.

The issue of fireworks and whether to ban their sale and use pits issues of safety and nuisance against, well, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. It feels a bit antithetical to ban fireworks for the Fourth of July, but there are legitimate concerns regarding their use, legal and illegal.

Pets, especially dogs, can react with fear and anxiety to fireworks. Reports of missing pets can increase 40 percent during the fireworks season.

South County Fire, going back to 2005, has tallied \$3.7 million in property damage from fires caused by fireworks. And 262 injuries were reported statewide in 2017, most around the July 4 holiday, to the Washington State Patrol.

And awareness has increased in recent years that fireworks can cause anxiety for those with post-traumatic stress — including combat veterans — and the victims of gun violence.

Fireworks use in the unincorporated areas of the county are currently limited to the hours of 9 a.m. to midnight on July 4. About half of Snohomish County's cities have banned consumer fireworks outright. The others, including Arlington, Bothell, Darrington, Granite Falls, Index, Lake Stevens, Monroe and Snohomish, have regulations similar to the county; Stanwood and Sultan have no restrictions beyond state law.

Another county ordinance in 2016 gives the county fire marshal the authority to declare an emergency and ban fireworks during periods of extreme drought. Currently,

low snowpack and a warmer and drier spring have resulted in moderate drought conditions in Snohomish County and much of Western Washington.

Fireworks bans and regulations are a challenge to enforce, but a ban on their sale would make them more difficult to acquire, which could limit their use.

In recent years, the county council has stopped short of a countywide all-out ban on fireworks, instead leaving the option available to neighborhood majorities and fire officials.

Jim Kenny, board chairman for South County Fire, noted in seeking the ban the extent and growth in the areas the agency is expected to protect from fires and injuries.

“That makes it very challenging and very dangerous to use fireworks amongst so many homes and so many people,” he told The Herald.

The council should take seriously the expertise and knowledge of fire officials and extend a fireworks ban in the south county’s unincorporated areas as requested.

Some will protest the ban, but it doesn’t have to mean a less enjoyable Fourth. Along with professional fireworks displays, a ban on consumer fireworks would still leave us with Adams’ pomp, parade and more.

And it could mean fewer homes lost to fire and fewer dogs — and fingers and eyes — lost to their owners.



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Linda Gray <lg899a@gmail.com>

Fwd: Fire District 7 - Fire District 1 to request ban on fireworks in unincorporated SC

1 message

Linda Gray <lg899a@gmail.com>
To: Linda Gray <lg899a@gmail.com>

Fri, Jun 23, 2023 at 11:44 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Guy Palumbo** <gpalumbo@snofire7.org>
Date: Wed, Jun 24, 2015 at 11:46 AM
Subject: Re: Fire District 7 - Fire District 1 to request ban on fireworks in unincorporated SC
To: Linda Gray <lg899a@gmail.com>
Cc: Janet Littlefield <jrlittlefield@mac.com>, Bill STANKUS <wjstankus@icloud.com>

Linda,

To be clear, the current commissioners haven't discussed this issue yet. I don't know if we will join the call for a ban or not.

On a personal note, I live on 5 acres off Paradise Lake Rd near Janet and my neighborhood is like a war zone for 4 days every year. I own a small mom and pop dog kennel and it is the worst time of the year for my business. The dogs get stressed. I have to worry about my kennel burning down from the mortars that all of my neighbors fire off. I spend every 4th doing things like spraying down my roof with a pressure washer and staying up late to make sure my buildings aren't burning down.

Guy Palumbo
Fire Commissioner - Snohomish District 7
206-718-1970

On Jun 24, 2015, at 7:32 AM, Linda Gray <lg899a@gmail.com> wrote:

Hello Guy - thank you for your response and suggestions. It's disappointing the current commissioners won't take a stand for the community.

I will be at the General meeting this morning. I know it's the Governor who can make the decision this year. I've already reached out to him. Thanks again - Linda

On Tue, Jun 23, 2015 at 11:55 PM, Guy Palumbo <gpalumbo@snofire7.org> wrote:

Linda,

Thanks for writing.

This is an issue that popped up as of last week when the press reported on the meeting you attended. I have begun to look into this as it's a new issue for me. Unfortunately, I will not be able to attend the meeting in Everett tomorrow.

What I have found out thus far is that:

1 This issue was discussed in past years at District 7 with the previous board and that they decided to not take a stance. Given the interest by our constituents, I am sure our new board will be discussing this issue in future meetings. Realistically, I don't think there is time for us to have a debate and vote before July 4th, 2015 based on meeting schedules.

2 As fire districts, we have no enforcement capabilities or legal standing to enact a ban or enforce it. We of course deal with the increased call volume during the 4th and the fires.

3 From speaking with folks at the county, it does not appear that this policy issue is scheduled for any hearings, agendas or work sessions. Tomorrow's meeting is the General Session so I think it will be a chance to speak on any issue for the 2 or 3 minutes they allow.

Even if it's not this year, focusing on a council vote to enact a ban is probably the best avenue to achieve your goal. You will need to get one of the council's committees to put it on their agenda for action.

4 The Sheriff does not have the deputies required to enforce a county-wide ban and that is the main objection at the county level.

You are completely right that this is likely to be one of the worst 4ths in a while with regard to fire danger. We just got alerted last week to the potential wildfire danger this year. Our firefighters are part of a regional effort to fight those types of fires and for events like Oso. It is a serious problem that affects District 7 directly.

I hope this information helps in some way.

Guy Palumbo
Fire Commissioner - Snohomish District 7
206-718-1970

On Jun 17, 2015, at 12:15 PM, Linda Gray <lg899a@gmail.com> wrote:

Good Afternoon Commissioners and Fire Chief - I attended Fire District 1's Commissioner meeting last evening to support their resolution requesting the SC Council ban fireworks in unincorporated SC. They approved and plan to present it to the Council at 9am on June 24th. However, I was told the resolution only includes District 1, not the entire County and is not enforceable until next year.

We need to do both - stop fireworks this year and provide a permanent fireworks ban for all SC's unincorporated areas. 2015 is horrific. We're facing a combination of extreme fire danger and severe drought with the introduction of fireworks exponentially increasing the probability of catastrophe for all residents. Additionally, July 4th falls on a Saturday for the first time in 6 years with the potential to be worse than the banner fireworks fire year of 2009.

Therefore, I am writing to request

1. Your support of Fire District 1's resolution, that it include District 7 and that you plan to send a representative to the SC Council Meeting on June 24th
2. Most importantly though, request the Snohomish County Council petition Governor Inslee to declare a state of Emergency under RCW 38.52 banning the sale/discharge of fireworks statewide effective immediately and through the remainder of 2015 due to extreme fire danger.

Background documentation :

- <http://www.king5.com/story/news/local/2015/06/17/snohomish-countys-largest-fire-district-seeks-fireworks-ban/28850639/> "EVERETT, Wash. -- Commissioners in Snohomish County's largest fire district are pushing to ban fireworks on the Fourth of July, after a decade of complaints and fireworks-related fires"... "It's real for us," said Robert Eastman, District 1 Assistant Fire Chief. "The increase of calls, the fire loss is real. We don't want to lose a home to something that's preventable."
- http://www.dnr.wa.gov/RecreationEducation/News/Pages/2015_04_15_wildfireseason_nr.aspx "This year (2015), we have ominous predictions for a hot, dry summer," said Commissioner of Public Lands Peter Goldmark. "...Last year, more than 315,000 acres of DNR-protected lands were consumed by about 900 wildfires, in the **state's worst ever fire season.... 75 percent of the fires were human-caused.**"
- <http://www.chinookobserver.com/co/local-news/20150616/state-fire-marshall-tracks-injuries-fires-from-fireworks> "...there were 432 fireworks-related injuries and fires (155 in Washington in 2014. That represents a 27 percent increase in

incidents over the previous year...**This year, the Fourth of July falls on a Saturday for the first time in six years...**It's possible the timing of the holiday plays a big role, since more people are likely to "go big" when the holiday falls on a weekend...**That Saturday in 2009 was a banner year for fireworks-related fires, with 1,049 documented incidents** — more than twice the number of fires in either 2008 or 2010. Those fires included six residential fires and one wild land fire, and caused an estimated \$5,641,290 in damage."

Thank you for your consideration. Please get back to me with any questions and your next steps.

Sincerely,

Linda Gray, resident Unincorporated Snohomish County
206-818-2293

From: Linda Gray <lgn899a@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 23, 2023 2:29 PM
To: Low, Sam; Contact Council
Cc: Peterson, Strom; Twiford, Taylor; cc: Chan, David; Hynes, Leslie; kurlykate888@gmail.com; mvfields@me.com; Eric Adman; Streamkeeper, Tom; James Walsh; William Lider; fultondl@gmail.com; Nelson Kurt (knelson@tulaliptribes-nsn.gov); Joan Thomas; dennis hill; Deborah L Wetzel; Tom Campbell; Joan Smith; Everett Herald Newshound; Mead, Jared; Thompson, Joshua; Cat Gustafson
Subject: CORRECTION - SC Council - Ordinance 23-057 on June 28th Agenda

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

Please make the correction - I should have stated I live in Unincorporated Snohomish County.

On Fri, Jun 23, 2023 at 2:19 PM Linda Gray <lgn899a@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear SC Council members: Please put Ordinance 23-057 on the Council Agenda and pass it on June 28, 2023, to prohibit the sale of fireworks in banned areas next year. The request by a Councilmember to get numbers on how effective the current inadequate unincorporated ban is ridiculous for the following reasons – 1) Citizens often cannot tell from the map where it's legal because it can be different on each side of a street. 2) Unlike King County(see below),, reporting instructions are confusing and do not provide a paper trail for the person reporting. 3) Citizens cannot tell from the sound which is legal or not. 4)Like King County, create an ordinance **prohibiting all fireworks** in Snohomish County effective July 4, 2025.

[What to know about firework bans in Washington | KOMO \(komonews.com\)](#)“The investigators and police officers no longer have to look and say, ‘is this something that is legal or not legal?’” Puget Sound Regional Fire Authority Capt. Kyle Ohashi said. “It’s all illegal now so that makes the job for the police and fire departments a little bit easier.”

[All fireworks banned in unincorporated King County starting next year | KOMO \(komonews.com\)](#)***“It is past time for King County to do what most cities and parks have already done,” he said. “People in unincorporated King County deserve the same protections as those living in cities.”***

Residents can report violators to the King County Permitting Division: Online by visiting www.kingcounty.gov/reportfireworks (Follow the steps below)

First-time users will have to register for Permitting’s online customer portal system.

Once you’ve registered, click on “Ask a Question.”

On the “Topic” pull-down menu on the next page, click “Fireworks” and submit the information.

Or Phone:**206-848-0800.**

Thank you - Linda Gray, Incorporated SC

From: Linda Gray <lg899a@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 23, 2023 2:20 PM
To: Low, Sam; Contact Council
Cc: Peterson, Strom; Twiford, Taylor; cc: Chan, David; Hynes, Leslie; kurlykate888@gmail.com; mvfields@me.com; Eric Adman; Streamkeeper, Tom; James Walsh; William Lider; fultondl@gmail.com; Nelson Kurt (knelson@tulaliptribes-nsn.gov); Joan Thomas; dennis hill; Deborah L Wetzel; Tom Campbell; Joan Smith; Everett Herald Newshound; Mead, Jared; Thompson, Joshua; Cat Gustafson
Subject: SC Council - Ordinance 23-057 on June 28th Agenda

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

Dear SC Council members: Please put Ordinance 23-057 on the Council Agenda and pass it on June 28, 2023, to prohibit the sale of fireworks in banned areas next year. The request by a Councilmember to get numbers on how effective the current inadequate unincorporated ban is ridiculous for the following reasons – 1) Citizens often cannot tell from the map where it's legal because it can be different on each side of a street. 2) Unlike King County(see below),, reporting instructions are confusing and do not provide a paper trail for the person reporting. 3) Citizens cannot tell from the sound which is legal or not. 4)Like King County, create an ordinance **prohibiting all fireworks** in Snohomish County effective July 4, 2025.

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Or Phone:**206-848-0800.**

Thank you - Linda Gray, Incorporated SC

From: carolyn johnston <carolyn.izlube@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 26, 2023 5:30 PM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Ban fireworks

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

The current sale of fireworks is untenable. Allowing the sale, but not the use of fireworks, is like allowing the sale, but not the use of Heroin. There is absolutely no enforcement by the Sheriff's Department on the use of fireworks in unincorporated Snohomish County; banning the sale of fireworks will go a long way to stopping the illegal use of fireworks, where banned in Snohomish County.

C Johnston

From: Linda Gray <lg899a@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 7:49 AM
To: Contact Council
Subject: SC Council - Ordinance 23-057 on June 28th Agenda

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

Dear SC Council members - I am resending my email from last week as my public comment during the Council meeting at 9am today. Thank you Linda

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Linda Gray** <lg899a@gmail.com>
 Date: Fri, Jun 23, 2023 at 2:19 PM
 Subject: SC Council - Ordinance 23-057 on June 28th Agenda
 To: Sam Low <Sam.Low@co.snohomish.wa.us>, Contact Council <contact.council@co.snohomish.wa.us>
 Cc: strom.peterson@snoco.org <Strom.Peterson@snoco.org>, taylor.twiford@snoco.org <taylor.twiford@snoco.org>,
 cc: Chan, David <dchan@southsnofire.org>, Hynes, Leslie <lhynes@southsnofire.org>, kurlykate888@gmail.com
 <kurlykate888@gmail.com>, mvfields@me.com <mvfields@me.com>, Eric Adman
 <snokingwatershedcouncil@gmail.com>, tomm@streamkeeper.org <tomm@streamkeeper.org>, James Walsh
 <jamesrwalsh@outgun.com>, William Lider <bill@liderengineering.com>, <fultondl@gmail.com>, Nelson Kurt
 (<knelson@tulaliptribes-nsn.gov>) <knelson@tulaliptribes-nsn.gov>, Joan Thomas <savebothell@outlook.com>, dennis hill
 <dennishill229@gmail.com>, Deborah L Wetzal <debbieleewetzel@gmail.com>, Tom Campbell
 <tomcampbell108@gmail.com>, Joan Smith <joan.a.smith@gmail.com>, Everett Herald Newshound
 <newstips@heraldnet.com>, Jared.Mead@co.snohomish.wa.us <Jared.Mead@co.snohomish.wa.us>,
Joshua.Thompson@snoco.org <Joshua.Thompson@snoco.org>, Cat Gustafson <cathgust@hotmail.com>

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Or Phone:**206-848-0800**.

Thank you - Linda Gray, Unincorporated SC

From: Contact Council
Sent: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 9:13 AM
To: Lao, Elena; Campfield, Lisa
Subject: FW: June 28, 2023 Council GLS--Fireworks Ord. 23-057
Attachments: 2023-06-28 Lider Comments to County Council.pdf

Debbie Eco, CMC
Clerk of the Council
Snohomish County Council
425-388-7038

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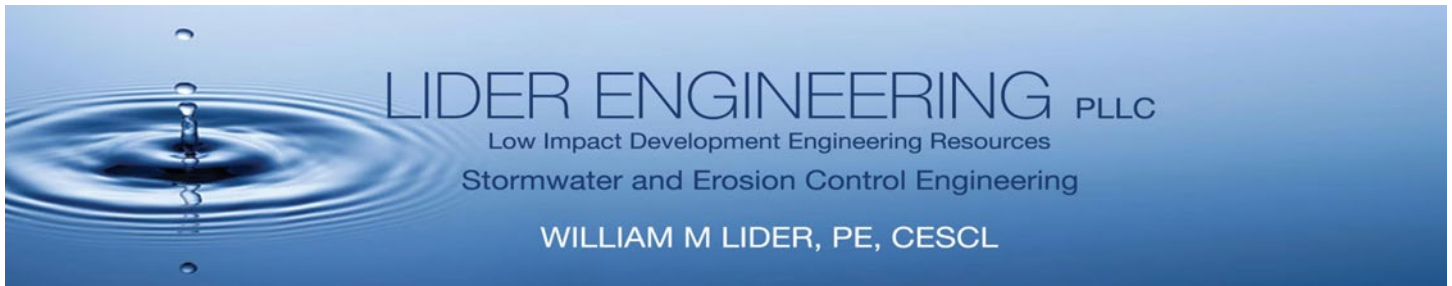
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From: bill liderengineering.com <bill@liderengineering.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 8:54 AM
To: Contact Council <Contact.Council@co.snohomish.wa.us>
Cc: Chan, David <dchan@southsnofire.org>; Hynes, Leslie <lhynes@southsnofire.org>; kurlykate888@gmail.com; Linda Gray <lgn899a@gmail.com>; mvfields@me.com; Eric Adman <snokingwatershedcouncil@gmail.com>; Streamkeeper, Tom <Tomm@streamkeeper.org>; 'James Walsh' <jamesrwalsh@outgun.com>; Nelson Kurt (knelson@tulaliptribes-nsn.gov) <knelson@tulaliptribes-nsn.gov>; Doris Fulton <fultondl@gmail.com>; Joan Thomas <savebothell@outlook.com>; dennis hill <dennishill229@gmail.com>; Deborah L Wetzel <debbieleewetzel@gmail.com>; Tom Campbell <tomcampbell108@gmail.com>; Joan Smith <joan.a.smith@gmail.com>; Everett Herald Newshound <newstips@heraldnet.com>; Josh@pnwrstrategies.com
Subject: June 28, 2023 Council GLS--Fireworks Ord. 23-057

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

Attached are my comments for your consideration on fireworks Ord. 23-057 at the 9:00 am June 28th General Legislative Session of the County Council.

William (Bill) Lider, PE, CESCL
Lider Engineering, PLLC
2526 – 205th Place SW
Lynnwood, WA 98036
425-776-0671 Office
206-661-0787 Cell



William Lider Public Comments to County Council
June 28, 2023

I spoke at the June 20 Planning Committee meeting, along with a number of other concerned citizens in support of Ord. 23-057, where the Council chose to delay for another year banning the sale of fireworks in Snohomish County, where their use is already illegal use. We were all shocked by the Council's vote to delay and study this ordinance. As I stated in my previous communications to the Council, no documents were provided to me on past public records requests on fireworks for responses or citations by the Sheriff Adam Fortney's Department. A delay looking for more records is meaningless, as the records either do not exist; or if they do, then there has been a serious violation of the Public Records Act by the County for withholding public records to my previous request.

The Council can vote today to take emergency action pass and pass Ord. 23-057 banning the sale of fireworks effective June 28, 2024 in south County, where their use is already prohibited. If the Council fails to act today, the sale of fireworks in unincorporated Snohomish County cannot be halted until the year 2025, two years from now.

I again request that the Council vote today and each Councilperson go on record as either supporting or opposing the sale of fireworks where their use is already illegal. Because there is no enforcement, fireworks use was greater in 2022 than at any time since the fireworks ban became effective in 2020. Either:

1. Vote on an emergency ordinance to ban fireworks sales effective June 28, 2024; or
2. If the Council is unwilling to vote on an emergency ordinance to halt fireworks sales in 2024, then it should raise the fine for using fireworks that are already prohibited in south County to a gross misdemeanor with fines of:
 - a. \$1,000 for the first fireworks citation; and
 - b. \$5,000 for any subsequent fireworks citation.

Increased fines for fireworks use should take effect immediately as a deterrent for the illegal use of fireworks in south County.

Raising the fireworks citation fine does not require the 1-year delay to take effect under State law, because the use of fireworks is already prohibited in south County. A higher fine for illegal use might give the Sheriff Adam Fortney's Department some incentive to enforce the law, rather than treating it as a barking dog complaint. An emergency ordinance is warranted given the current fire danger in Snohomish County and because currently there is no enforcement of the fireworks ban by the County. Fireworks use is greater now, than it was before the ban took effect in 2020. Fireworks vendors tell their customers that is ok to use fireworks, because they know that Sheriff Fortney does not enforce this law.

One year's notice is more than enough time for the churches to find alternative ways to legally raise money, rather than profiting off fireworks sales that can only be used illegally. It is the height of hypocrisy to allow the sale but not the use of fireworks in my neighborhood. Fireworks sales begin at noon today, where they are already illegal to use. Please do something today!

From: bill liderengineering.com <bill@liderengineering.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 12:54 PM
To: Chan, David; Hynes, Leslie; kurlykate888@gmail.com; Linda Gray; mvfields@me.com; Eric Adman; Streamkeeper, Tom; 'James Walsh'; Nelson Kurt (knelson@tulaliptribes-nsn.gov); Doris Fulton; Joan Thomas; dennis hill; Deborah L Wetzel; Tom Campbell; Joan Smith; Everett Herald Newshound; Josh@pnwrstrategies.com
Cc: Contact Council
Subject: RE: June 28, 2023 Council GLS--Fireworks Ord. 23-057

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

All—Linda Gray, Debbie Wetzel, and I spoke at the County Council Legislative General Session this morning on halting the sale of fireworks in 2024. I know that others also submitted written comments who could not participate today.

After returning from executive session at about 10:20 this morning, the Council adjourned without discussion and took no action on the sale of fireworks.

The next opportunity to address this issue will be at the 11:00 am July 18th SNOCO Planning & Community Development Committee meeting, Webinar Link: <https://zoom.us/j/94846850772>

It appears that due to Council inaction, we will not be able to stop the sale of fireworks that are illegal to use in Snohomish County, until 2025.

It simply blows my mind that Council continues to allow the sale of fireworks that are illegal to use in south County, for yet another year!

William (Bill) Lider, PE, CESCL
Lider Engineering, PLLC
2526 – 205th Place SW
Lynnwood, WA 98036
425-776-0671 Office
206-661-0787 Cell

From: bill liderengineering.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 8:54 AM
To: Contact Council <contact.council@co.snohomish.wa.us>
Cc: Chan, David <dchan@southsnofire.org>; Hynes, Leslie <lhynes@southsnofire.org>; kurlykate888@gmail.com; Linda Gray <lg899a@gmail.com>; mvfields@me.com; Eric Adman <snokingwatershedcouncil@gmail.com>; tomm@streamkeeper.org; 'James Walsh' <jamesrwash@outgun.com>; Nelson Kurt (knelson@tulaliptribes-nsn.gov) <knelson@tulaliptribes-nsn.gov>; Doris Fulton <fultondl@gmail.com>; Joan Thomas <savebothell@outlook.com>; dennis hill <dennishill229@gmail.com>; Deborah L Wetzel <debbieleewetzel@gmail.com>; Tom Campbell <tomcampbell108@gmail.com>; Joan Smith <joan.a.smith@gmail.com>; Everett Herald Newshound <newstips@heraldnet.com>; Josh@pnwrstrategies.com
Subject: June 28, 2023 Council GLS--Fireworks Ord. 23-057

Attached are my comments for your consideration on fireworks Ord. 23-057 at the 9:00 am June 28th General Legislative Session of the County Council.

William (Bill) Lider, PE, CESCL
Lider Engineering, PLLC
2526 – 205th Place SW
Lynnwood, WA 98036
425-776-0671 Office
206-661-0787 Cell

From: Contact Council
Sent: Friday, June 30, 2023 2:03 PM
To: Campfield, Lisa
Subject: FW: Stands selling fireworks

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

For the record, please

Debbie Eco, CMC
Clerk of the Council
Snohomish County Council
425-388-7038

Please be advised: All e-mail correspondence sent to and from this e-mail address is subject to the State of Washington's Public Records Act (chapter 42.56 RCW).

E-mail and data attached to e-mail (including metadata) sent to and from this e-mail address may be monitored and archived, and may be disclosed to third parties pursuant to state law.

-----Original Message-----

From: (null) ddiamond11 <ddiamond11@frontier.com>
Sent: Friday, June 30, 2023 8:38 AM
To: Contact Council <Contact.Council@co.snohomish.wa.us>
Subject: Stands selling fireworks

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

Why is it fireworks are being sold in areas that fireworks are banned? I have never understood this logic. It seems antithetical to stopping people breaking the law by lighting them off. It seems no one cares about annoying law abiding citizens not to mention the litter and possible property and human damage they cause! Can you please explain this to me.

If they are banned they should not be sold in those areas, seems churches get yet another break while the rest of us just have to cover and hide to avoid the nuisance that has become 4th of July!

Annoyed and fed up citizen of Snohomish county.

Sent from my iPhone

From: Ryan Sims <rsims1615@icloud.com>
Sent: Friday, June 30, 2023 10:11 PM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Fireworks

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

Hello,

I'm respectfully requesting that the sale of fireworks be prohibited in Snohomish County. I've spent several nights this week trying to comfort my terrorized dog (family member). He shakes uncontrollably and has diarrhea indoors because he's afraid to go out. This happens the week leading up the 4th, during football season when the Seahawks score, before and after New Year's Eve, and now during hockey season. It has come to the point we are considering moving.

90% of fireworks are made in China. They terrorize pets, wildlife, veterans, and they pollute our air, rivers and streams. They are also a dangerous fire hazard. I plead with you— the only way to stop this madness is to prohibit the sale.

I appreciate your consideration and hope we can make our community safer and more comfortable for all of our pets, wildlife and neighbors. Thank you.

Kind regards,

Ryan Sims
Independent Vision, LLC
15319 3rd Dr SE
Mill Creek, WA 98012
independentvisionllc@gmail.com
(425)359-4614

From: Joanne Arland <arlandjm@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 1, 2023 2:06 PM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Please ban the Sale of Fireworks in Cities where Banned (Mukilteo and Everett)

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

Hello,

What a complete oxymoron this is to allow the sale of fireworks in cities where they are banned, it shows that counties and cities are not working together. I'm seeing many popup Fireworks Sales sites in Everett and Mukilteo and I'm proposing in gets on your docket as a proposal to ban the sales of fireworks in all of Snohomish County. (Exception I.e. Tulalip Indian Reservation being a completely different governed body)

I personally don't have a problem with fireworks and would like to enjoy them, but this would be at a sanctioned city event. However, I DO have a problem when teenagers/adults thinks it very cool in their opinion or being sneaky to light off m80's or m100's (yes, m100's probably had from Boom City in Tulalip) at the very early hours of 1-2am in the morning when people have to get up the next day to go to work. This starts occurring at least 2 weeks before the 4th and at 3 weeks or more afterwards. It always leads to yelling fights and running off the teens/adults from Mariner High School property, which is highly banned to light off at schools! It's getting dangerous with people trying to handle it themselves and stop the madness. Do you actually think that a sign that states "No Fireworks" is going to stop them?

Security does help but they have to be on site at the schools and stay way after midnight to enforce this supposed ban on fireworks. Some years I have seen no security at all at the schools.

As an example of what the Wild West fireworks looks like, a few years back when I thought it was safe to do so during early afternoon on July 4th while walking my dogs on the sidewalk a couple of adults and their kids who were on the (soccer) Playfield across from Mariner High School thought it would be a great idea to fire off some bottle rocket fireworks at me and my dogs. To say I had words for them was an understatement, but the damage was done and now my dogs are completely terrified of the sound of fireworks (before this incident they were completely fine.) I just wish the people who think this is okay to light the fireworks off where ever they feel like it, firing off fireworks at schools, at homes, people and dogs could see and feel the terror my animals feel and me trying to console them where there is none to help them through it (not even CBD or thunder shirts helps.)

To report illegal fireworks number is [425-407-3999](tel:425-407-3999). I unfortunately will probably be calling this number on July 4th when everyone is rolling onto school property, we'll see how effective or non-effective this will be.

Please take these comments under consideration and ban the sale of fireworks in your cities.

Thank You,

From: Juliet Halloran <juliet.halloran@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 1, 2023 2:23 PM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Fireworks Stands in Banned Fireworks Zone

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

Hello Council Members,

Please help me to understand something.

For the second year in a row, fireworks are banned in my area. I am glad about this.

What I don't understand is why fireworks stands are still allowed to sell fireworks INSIDE the banned fireworks zone?

There are three fireworks stands I can think of near my home that are inside the banned area and are getting ready to open.

This makes no sense whatsoever and is counterproductive to having a fireworks ban if fireworks are still sold in a banned area.

Why is this allowed?

Kind regards,

Juliet

Sent from my iPhone

From: gabrielle fortuna <frannie123@icloud.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 1, 2023 5:32 PM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Firework stands

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

What are we thinking banning fireworks in our areas and the county still allows fireworks stands. The police won't enforce the laws and you allow these stands to go up 10's of miles away from where people can legally use them. They should only be sold within 1 mile of legal areas.

I find my self constantly sticking up for you folks, but this is the worst self sabotage I've seen from you.

Gabrielle Fortuna

Everett, Wa

Sent from my iPhone

From: michelleg18@frontier.com
Sent: Sunday, July 2, 2023 4:14 PM
To: David Chan; McCrary, Mike; Somers, Dave J; Strom Peterson; Contact Council; "jkenny@southsnofire.org"; OfficeofFireChief@southsnofire.org
Cc: Kate Lunceford; Kristin Kelly
Subject: Fireworks

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

Hi David,

I was very saddened to see that in the last issue of the South County Fire District's newsletter didn't mention the fireworks ban in South Snohomish County.

I have a hard time with this, because so many people petitioned the County Council at the hearings a few years ago. But even our own fire station at Hilltop on Damson doesn't put out much of a message so that residents can see and believe that there is really a fireworks ban. I have the feeling that those in power really don't care. Please show me that I am wrong.

For the last 2 years the fire station on Damson Road in my neighborhood had a little flimsy, cloth or plastic, sign that they put by the road that was about 3 feet off the ground and about 3 feet wide and about a foot and a half tall hanging on the posts. It was hard to see and folded over on itself so you couldn't read it any. It said something about the fireworks ban

I am so disappointed in our South County Fire Department for not working as hard as some citizens, including myself have. Last year I walked around, up and down peoples steps, delivering over 250 flyers that I got from the fire department. Before that I made and delivered my own letter to my neighbors. This year, because of a knee injury I am not able to do that. I am after all 82 years old. What's wrong with this picture!

Why is it that I am the only one I know of that cares enough to bring the message to my neighborhood, especially since there is a fire station, with supposedly caring firemen working within our community. They are right across from an elementary school and next to a minor arterial that gets much traffic. It is a lost opportunity at best and a seemingly not caring attitude at worst.

Is there still time David, to at least get a large sign put up in full view at the Hilltop Fire Station.

Anything else you can do? I was hoping I wouldn't have to start writing this year, but already M-80's are going off in my neighborhood. This is July 2nd. I don't know where my cat is and it looks like I'm going to have to tranquilize him for 3 or 4 days. This is outrageous. David can you help?

Thanks so much for anything you can do.

Sincerely,

Mickie Gundersen
1126 Lawton Road
Lynnwood, WA 98036
425-218-9847

From: Ash Peers <ashforrestpeers@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 2, 2023 5:23 PM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Fireworks ban

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

Hello,

I am writing to inquire about a temporary fireworks ban in unincorporated/rural Snohomish county. Specifically, the Sultan through Index area. Due to the current fire weather watch advisory for part of this week, as well as the current fire on Sultan Basin (38300 blk), I am concerned about the dangers of fire works in the area. After the Bolt Creek fire incident last year I am more concerned than ever about fire safety in my community. I love my hometown and I don't want to see senseless damages occur because of fireworks.

This would not be a popular decision, I realize. However, I think it is the right one to make for the benefit of the community. I am happy to discuss my concerns further via email, but I am also available by phone. I will share my contact information with you if requested. Thank you for your time, consideration and work on behalf of my community.

Sincerely,
Ash Peers

From: michelleg18@frontier.com
Sent: Monday, July 3, 2023 10:32 AM
To: Burke, Lori
Subject: Re: Fireworks

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

Dear Lori,

Thank you for your information.

It may seem that the fire department has done a good job, however I beg to differ from you. I am the only one in my large community who has ever taken flyers around. The Hilltop Station does not post the fireworks ban in such a way that people can see it. There is not notification or any other public information coming from them. The last issue of the fire department flyer did not even mention the fireworks ban. I am a daily reader of the Herald. The fireworks ban should have been on the front page. Nothing there either.

80% of the neighbors I have talked to are afraid of fireworks, but they are afraid of their bully neighbors who continue to light off fireworks. Most people think that since fireworks are still allowed to be sold that they can be lit off. I never see any firemen at these sales telling people about the ban.

The law is a sham. Our County Council should be ashamed! Has the fire department made any effort to get the sale of fireworks removed from the law. I doubt it.

I am sorry to come off this way, but it appears to me that what is really happening out here is unknown to the fire district.

It would be better if the firemen made themselves known. How about it if they stand out by the road with signs or go door to door like I do. People love the firemen. They could make the difference.

But for now, fireworks are being shot off nightly and tomorrow it will be unbearable. I have to stay home in case my 3.5 acre of trees goes up in flames and I need to try to get myself and my neighbors out.

Please pass this around to people in your department as I see that there needs to be more information so the department knows what is really going on.

YOU GUYS ARE NOT DOING ENOUGH! I'M SORRY, BUT THIS IS TRUE!

I am sorry to put it this way, but I am dying down here. I am 82 years old and the only one I know of who has taken flyers, many my own for about 5 years. I need help! AND WHEN WE CALL FOR HELP, THERE IS NONE!

I talk with and am in communication with a lot of people, I have been the President of the Hilltop-Locust Community Group since 1997, and this is the consensus. WE ARE NOT SAFE!

Sincerely,

Mickie Gundersen
1126 Lawton Road
Lynnwood, Wa

On Monday, July 3, 2023, 09:57:45 AM PDT, Burke, Lori <lori.burke@snoco.org> wrote:

Michelle,

Though I understand the stress of fireworks and this time of year, our office is authorized to issue an emergency restriction on sale and use pursuant to Snohomish County Code 30.53A.725 which states the following:

SCC 30.53A.725 Fireworks – Emergency restriction on sale and use. The fire marshal may prohibit the discharge of all fireworks during periods of extreme fire danger. The fire marshal may exempt a public display of fireworks from this prohibition by permit and upon a finding that the public display will not constitute an extreme fire danger.

During this time of year, our office keeps a very close eye on the fire danger conditions by utilizing multiple resources that include moisture content in vegetation, department of natural resources, etc. Currently Snohomish County is in a moderate fire danger. We are not currently in a high fire danger nor an extreme fire danger. Therefore, we will not be issuing an emergency ban on fireworks.

I do believe that South County Fire and Rescue have done a great job of advertising and identifying those areas where firework discharge is banned within the Southwest Urban Growth Area (SW UGA) of Snohomish County only. They have provided flyers and posters that homeowners can obtain free of charge and place on their lawns. Our office was provided with posters and flyers that we conditioned all fireworks stands within the SW UGA to affix the poster close to their check-out area and to provide a flyer to each fireworks sales/customer. If you visit their website at [South County Fire | Home \(southsnofire.org\)](https://southsnofire.org) you can personally see the efforts they have gone to.

Lori T. Burke | *Assistant Fire Marshal*

[Snohomish County Planning and Development Services](#)

3000 Rockefeller Avenue M/S 604 | Everett, WA 98201

425-262-2279 - O | 425-512-4299 - C | lori.burke@snoco.org

NOTICE: All emails, and attachments, sent to and from Snohomish County are public records and may be subject to disclosure pursuant to the Public Records Act (RCW 42.56)

From: Moore, Megan <Megan.Moore@co.snohomish.wa.us>
Sent: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:24 AM
To: michelleg18@frontier.com; Burke, Lori <Lori.Burke@snoco.org>
Subject: Re: Fireworks

Hi Michelle,

Thank you for your email. I'm looping in our Assistant Fire Marshal, Lori Burke, about your request for an emergency fireworks ban.

Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Megan Moore | *Administrative Assistant to the Director*

[Snohomish County Planning and Development Services](#)

(425) 262-2891

she/her

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From: michelleg18@frontier.com <michelleg18@frontier.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 2, 2023 4:41 PM
To: Moore, Megan <Megan.Moore@co.snohomish.wa.us>
Subject: Fw: Fireworks

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

Dear Megan,

I hope you are authorized to call for an emergency fireworks ban to save our forests, pets, birds, veterans, babies, my Asian neighbors, who are afraid to speak up, and just many of us old folks from trauma during this supposedly cherished National holiday.

Mickie Gundersen

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: michelleg18@frontier.com <michelleg18@frontier.com>

To: David Chan <dchan@southsnofire.org>; McCrary Mike <m.mccrary@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Dave Somers <dave.somers@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Strom Peterson <votestrom@gmail.com>; Contact Council <contact.council@snoco.org>; jkenny@southsnofire.org <jkenny@southsnofire.org>; OfficeofFireChief@southsnofire.org <officeoffirechief@southsnofire.org>

Cc: Kate Lunceford <kurlykate888@gmail.com>; Kristin Kelly <edpas2016@gmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, July 2, 2023, 04:13:54 PM PDT

Subject: Fireworks

Hi David,

I was very saddened to see that in the last issue of the South County Fire District's newsletter didn't mention the fireworks ban in South Snohomish County.

I have a hard time with this, because so many people petitioned the County Council at the hearings a few years ago. But even our own fire station at Hilltop on Damson doesn't put out much of a message so that residents can see and believe that there is really a fireworks ban. I have the feeling that those in power really don't care. Please show me that I am wrong.

For the last 2 years the fire station on Damson Road in my neighborhood had a little flimsy, cloth or plastic, sign that they put by the road that was about 3 feet off the ground and about 3 feet wide and about a foot and a half tall hanging on the posts. It was hard to see and folded over on itself so you couldn't read it any. It said something about the fireworks ban

I am so disappointed in our South County Fire Department for not working as hard as some citizens, including myself have. Last year I walked around, up and down peoples steps, delivering over 250 flyers that I got from the fire department. Before that I made and delivered my own letter to my neighbors. This year, because of a knee injury I am not able to do that. I am after all 82 years old. What's wrong with this picture!

Why is it that I am the only one I know of that cares enough to bring the message to my neighborhood, especially since there is a fire station, with supposedly caring firemen working within our community. They are right across from an elementary school and next to a minor arterial that gets much traffic. It is a lost opportunity at best and a seemingly not caring attitude at worst.

Is there still time David, to at least get a large sign put up in full view at the Hilltop Fire Station.

Anything else you can do? I was hoping I wouldn't have to start writing this year, but already M-80's are going off in my neighborhood. This is July 2nd. I don't know where my cat is and it looks like I'm going to have to tranquilize him for 3 or 4 days. This is outrageous. David can you help?

Thanks so much for anything you can do.

Sincerely,

Mickie Gundersen

1126 Lawton Road

Lynnwood, WA 98036

425-218-9847

From: michelleg18@frontier.com
Sent: Monday, July 3, 2023 11:28 AM
To: Burke, Lori
Cc: Contact Council
Subject: Re: Fireworks

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

Dear Lori,

How about this?

I'll send you the address of 4 of the worst fireworks offenders and in our neighborhood and the address of the President of the Homeowner's Association here. You have a fireman go out and visit them and tell them that there has been a complaint against them for the amount and kind of fireworks they shoot off. That alone would do a lot for our community.

I have talked with these people over the years, but to no avail. In fact the worst offenders are in the cul-de-sac right behind the Hilltop Fire Station. Those folks shoot fireworks out into Crawford Road and I was almost hit walking on the sidewalk by a sideways rocket. They put up a grandstand for all the neighbors. There is a walkway from their cul-de-sac for school children that goes through the Hilltop fire station property. There is no way that the firemen at that station don't know what it going on. But no one says anything. Again, I believe if the firemen paid a visit today and tomorrow. Things would change.

I also put out signs last year that were removed within 2 days. I even went to a church and talked with the pastor and the ladies who were selling fireworks. The pastor was very uncooperative and harsh with me. He even told me that he personally wouldn't remove the sign I put out at the nearest intersection, but he wouldn't stop anyone else from removing it, and that they would continue to sell fireworks as long as it was legal to do so.

So you see, there is a limit to what a little old lady like me can do. But a big strong fireman wields much more social power. You know this is true. Let me know if you want the addresses and if you can get a fireman to pay a visit.

BTW One of the residents is a Seattle Fireman.

This is what we are up against. The culture needs local fireman support.

Thanks for whatever you can help with.

Mickie Gundersen

On Monday, July 3, 2023, 10:32:05 AM PDT, michelleg18@frontier.com <michelleg18@frontier.com> wrote:

Dear Lori,

Thank you for your information.

It may seem that the fire department has done a good job, however I beg to differ from you. I am the only one in my large community who has ever taken flyers around. The Hilltop Station does not post the fireworks ban in such a way that people can see it. There is not notification or any other public information coming from them. The last issue of the fire department flyer did not even mention the fireworks ban. I am a daily reader of the Herald. The fireworks ban should have been on the front page. Nothing there either.

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The law is a sham. Our County Council should be ashamed! Has the fire department made any effort to get the sale of fireworks removed from the law. I doubt it.

I am sorry to come off this way, but it appears to me that what is really happening out here is unknown to the fire district.

It would be better if the firemen made themselves known. How about it if they stand out by the road with signs or go door to door like I do. People love the firemen. They could make the difference.

But for now, fireworks are being shot off nightly and tomorrow it will be unbearable. I have to stay home in case my 3.5 acre of trees goes up in flames and I need to try to get myself and my neighbors out.

Please pass this around to people in your department as I see that there needs to be more information so the department knows what is really going on.

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I talk with and am in communication with a lot of people, I have been the President of the Hilltop-Locust Community Group since 1997, and this is the consensus. WE ARE NOT SAFE!

Sincerely,

Mickie Gundersen
1126 Lawton Road
Lynnwood, Wa

On Monday, July 3, 2023, 09:57:45 AM PDT, Burke, Lori <lori.burke@snoco.org> wrote:

Michelle,

Though I understand the stress of fireworks and this time of year, our office is authorized to issue an emergency restriction on sale and use pursuant to Snohomish County Code 30.53A.725 which states the following:

SCC 30.53A.725 Fireworks – Emergency restriction on sale and use. The fire marshal may prohibit the discharge of all fireworks during periods of extreme fire danger. The fire marshal may exempt a public display of fireworks from this prohibition by permit and upon a finding that the public display will not constitute an extreme fire danger.

During this time of year, our office keeps a very close eye on the fire danger conditions by utilizing multiple resources that include moisture content in vegetation, department of natural resources, etc. Currently Snohomish County is in a moderate fire danger. We are not currently in a high fire danger nor an extreme fire danger. Therefore, we will not be issuing an emergency ban on fireworks.

I do believe that South County Fire and Rescue have done a great job of advertising and identifying those areas where firework discharge is banned within the Southwest Urban Growth Area (SW UGA) of Snohomish County only. They have provided flyers and posters that homeowners can obtain free of charge and place on their lawns. Our office was provided with posters and flyers that we conditioned all fireworks stands within the SW UGA to affix the poster close to their check-out area and to provide a flyer to each fireworks sales/customer. If you visit their website at [South County Fire | Home \(southsnofire.org\)](https://southsnofire.org) you can personally see the efforts they have gone to.

Lori T. Burke | *Assistant Fire Marshal*

[Snohomish County Planning and Development Services](#)

3000 Rockefeller Avenue M/S 604 | Everett, WA 98201

425-262-2279 - O | 425-512-4299 - C | lori.burke@snoco.org

NOTICE: All emails, and attachments, sent to and from Snohomish County are public records and may be subject to disclosure pursuant to the Public Records Act (RCW 42.56)

From: Moore, Megan <Megan.Moore@co.snohomish.wa.us>
Sent: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:24 AM
To: michelleg18@frontier.com; Burke, Lori <Lori.Burke@snoco.org>
Subject: Re: Fireworks

Hi Michelle,

Thank you for your email. I'm looping in our Assistant Fire Marshal, Lori Burke, about your request for an emergency fireworks ban.

Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Megan Moore | *Administrative Assistant to the Director*

[Snohomish County Planning and Development Services](#)

(425) 262-2891

she/her

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From: michelleg18@frontier.com <michelleg18@frontier.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 2, 2023 4:41 PM
To: Moore, Megan <Megan.Moore@co.snohomish.wa.us>
Subject: Fw: Fireworks

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

Dear Megan,

I hope you are authorized to call for an emergency fireworks ban to save our forests, pets, birds, veterans, babies, my Asian neighbors, who are afraid to speak up, and just many of us old folks from trauma during this supposedly cherished National holiday.

Mickie Gundersen

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: michelleg18@frontier.com <michelleg18@frontier.com>

To: David Chan <dchan@southsnofire.org>; McCrary Mike <m.mccrary@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Dave Somers <dave.somers@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Strom Peterson <votestrom@gmail.com>; Contact Council <contact.council@snoco.org>; jkenny@southsnofire.org <jkenny@southsnofire.org>; OfficeofFireChief@southsnofire.org <officeoffirechief@southsnofire.org>

Cc: Kate Lunceford <kurlykate888@gmail.com>; Kristin Kelly <edpas2016@gmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, July 2, 2023, 04:13:54 PM PDT

Subject: Fireworks

Hi David,

I was very saddened to see that in the last issue of the South County Fire District's newsletter didn't mention the fireworks ban in South Snohomish County.

I have a hard time with this, because so many people petitioned the County Council at the hearings a few of years ago. But even our own fire station at Hilltop on Damson doesn't put out much of a message so that residents can see and believe that there is really a fireworks ban. I have the feeling that those in power really don't care. Please show me that I am wrong.

For the last 2 years the fire station on Damson Road in my neighborhood had a little flimsy, cloth or plastic, sign that they put by the road that was about 3 feet off the ground and about 3 feet wide and about a foot and a half tall hanging on the posts. It was hard to see and folded over on itself so you couldn't read it any. It said something about the fireworks ban

I am so disappointed in our South County Fire Department for not working as hard as some citizens, including myself have. Last year I walked around, up and down peoples steps, delivering over 250 flyers that I got from the fire department. Before that I made and delivered my own letter to my neighbors. This year, because of a knee injury I am not able to do that. I am after all 82 years old. What's wrong with this picture!

Why is it that I am the only one I know of that cares enough to bring the message to my neighborhood, especially since there is a fire station, with supposedly caring firemen working within our community. They are right across from an elementary school and next to a minor arterial that gets much traffic. It is a lost opportunity at best and a seemingly not caring attitude at worst.

Is there still time David, to at least get a large sign put up in full view at the Hilltop Fire Station.

Anything else you can do? I was hoping I wouldn't have to start writing this year, but already M-80's are going off in my neighborhood. This is July 2nd. I don't know where my cat is and it looks like I'm going to have tranquilize him for 3 or 4 days. This is outrageous. David can you help?

Thanks so much for anything you can do.

Sincerely,

Mickie Gundersen

1126 Lawton Road

Lynnwood, WA 98036

425-218-9847

From: Ryan Robison <ryanmrobison@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 4, 2023 3:27 PM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Banning fireworks sales

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

Dear members of our council,

Please count me as another citizen of our county that would like to see the sales of fireworks banned in unincorporated southwest Snohomish County. It was a very much appreciated and positive action when the discharge of fireworks was banned, and we have noticed a change for the better since we moved here in 2016. I feel it is time to take the next measure in banning their sale, as that will do even more good in preventing fires, injuries, damages, and being kind to our veterans with PTSD from combat. I know we have plenty of data on how much personal injury, property damage, and mental health trauma fireworks inflict on some of our bravest men and women who have served our country.

Let's give our first responders and medical workers a better holiday as well, one with fewer emergencies and injuries to attend to and treat.

I know there are churches, scout troops, and other valued members of our community that raise funds by selling fireworks. There are many ways they can raise money without selling something that cause so much unintentional suffering and damage, and it's time to take the next step to put a stop to the latter.

Thank you so much for your time, and please do feel welcome to reach out to me.

Ryan Robison
20828 12th Ave W
Lynnwood, WA 98036
(425)445-4017

Sent from my iPhone

From: Krysta Fitzgerald <kfitzgerald715@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 4, 2023 10:01 PM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Firework sales

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

County council members,

I hope you all enjoyed your 4th of July holiday. I didn't. Every year since I moved to Snohomish county, I've spent the 4th trapped inside my home, with fans and white noise and the tv all going in attempt to silence the explosions outside my house. Fireworks are illegal in Edmonds and unincorporated Snohomish county, but I drove past a tent where they were sold down the street next to Safeway. This is absolutely absurd. Fireworks are dangerous to people, wildlife, and the environment. You can't be foolish enough not to know this. You can't be foolish enough to realize that people are disturbed in their homes, dogs run away or are petrified, shaking for hours, and I've got multiple white noise machines going hoping my baby doesn't wake up, because if even one of you is a parent you'll know sleep is priceless and I'm doing everything to try and keep him asleep while my neighbors blow things up outside.

Only professionals should be lighting fireworks in a controlled environment, if I want to take my son in a few years I am happy to go downtown and watch a safe, controlled show that has a time limit. Instead I've been hearing these stupid explosions every night for over a week now and every 2-3 minutes for the last 3 hours and I know will continue for the next 3.

I'm sure this email will go in some folder somewhere and be discarded, but I know change only occurs if I use my voice to ask for it. The people/groups who will benefit from the ban on firework sales FAR outweigh the people who enjoy blowing them up. I urge you to take action so we can have some peace, so the animals both domestic and wild don't have to be terrified, and for any folks with PTSD don't have to be activated by this nonsense.

—Krysta Fitzgerald
Resident of Edmonds in the Meadowdale neighborhood

From: Chuck Lie <chuck_lie@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 4, 2023 10:08 PM
To: Somers, Dave J
Cc: Contact Council
Subject: I am speechless

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

Dave, it is that time of the year that the local FB page has condescending admonitions that it is each dog owner's responsibility to gun train their dog. I have always found that to be irresponsible and selfish. That being said, my maltese was gun trained from his puppy hood, he grew up listening to the volleys at the trap range and the random large caliber rifle reports at the rifle range. Even with that in his training from an age of 8 weeks, he still does not like the 4th of July.

The other day a neighbor posted on FB that the county would surely shut down fire works for the current Red Flag warning. It took all of my restraint to not post that county council members only goals are reelection. Damn the wild fire hazard and common sense! Shoot dem mortars up through the canopy of the neighborhood trees!!! Only communists are against fireworks!!!

Oh well.

Chuck Lie
Gold Bar, Washington

From: Nancy Flowers <nj31flw@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 5, 2023 2:22 PM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Fireworks

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

Hello:

I live in the Eastmont neighborhood of Everett, where the yearly private fireworks shows continue unabated. Why are sales of fireworks allowed (Shock and Awe, for example) when their use is banned? This makes absolutely no sense to me or to my neighbors. When I contacted my county councilman last year, he told me that churches and the Boy Scouts are allowed to sell as a fundraiser. Huh?? Why churches? Is the council filled with members of the Christian Faith mega church? Who decides who gets licenses to sell fireworks? My councilman also told me that if sales were banned, people will just drive to Boom City. So let them. Why is the council making it so easy for people to break the law? Please explain your thinking.

Sincerely (baffled...),
Nancy Flowers
8724 Cascadia Ave.
Everett
4253597262.

Sent from my iPhone

From: Neil Jackson <neilrodliejackson@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 5, 2023 7:18 PM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Fireworks Sales Ban Question

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

I am writing to petition the county council to consider a ban on the sales of those fireworks in areas that discharge of fireworks is illegal.

This does mean that legal to discharge firework sales will continue, providing income for the county.

Continuing the sale of illegal to discharge fireworks is unethical and dishonest and is counter productive to the ban.

Neil

From: Soheil Yazdani <soheil621@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 7, 2023 2:47 PM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Fireworks

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

Hi,

As a citizen in the Southwest part of the county, I am asking you to ban the sale of all fireworks, at least in the banned areas. Why did the voters vote to ban the use of fireworks? The sale of them, with their massive banners, is just an invitation for people to buy the fireworks and set them off regardless of the law. This is a slap in the face to all of the people who followed their duty and voted to ban them. They were banned for all the good reasons, fire hazard, disturbance to the people with PTSD, the sick, kids, elderly, pets, wild life... Is the revenue of the sale of fireworks worth undermining the vote of the people and the environment?

I look forward to your response,

Soheil Yazdani

From: Patricia Rafnar <rafnar.patricia@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, July 7, 2023 5:36 PM
To: letters@heraldnet.com
Cc: Low, Sam; Contact Council
Subject: Re: Fireworks ban approved in parts of south Snohomish County - Opinion

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

Hello,

Re; Fireworks ban approved in parts of south Snohomish County

I recently went through Breast Cancer Treatments for a very aggressive Her2 + cancer and praise god, am as close to cured as possible; although, after enduring brutal/tortuous chemotherapy, my strength is still affected. Cleaning the massive amount of Fireworks explosives garbage and debris is extremely challenging and difficult. Hosing down the staining powders on my recently resealed driveways left after the massive amount of fireworks explosions takes up the energy that I do not fully have as of yet.

There is absolutely zero Enforcement from the Snohomish County Sheriff South Precinct towards the fireworks ban in SW Unincorporated Snohomish County. Illegal fireworks complaints are never followed up, unless there is injury or MAJOR destruction to ones property. Therefore; one is unable to obtain a Police Report for minor damage for the purpose of ones Insurance or suit. The majority of the residents of South Snohomish County want the Fireworks Ban complaints to be Followed Up/Enforced; at the very least, a warning be given instead of citation. South County Fire is very active responding to service calls related to fireworks. One may consider that the ban is purposeless without Enforcement.

Banning the sale of fireworks would be effective.

Respectfully,

Patricia Rafnar

12109 1st Ave SE

Everett, WA 98208

Landline: 425.263.9781

From: Twiford, Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2023 7:18 AM
To: Campfield, Lisa
Subject: FW: Sales of fireworks in South Snohomish County

Hi Lisa,

Looks like this one got sent to all the council members but also me for some reason.

Taylor Twiford | *Administrative Assistant*
Snohomish County Planning and Development Services
Taylor.Twiford@snoco.org | 425.388.7119
she/her
Hours: Mon-Thurs 7:00 AM to 5:30 PM

From: Kate Lunceford <kurlykate888@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2023 7:11 AM
To: Mead, Jared <Jared.Mead@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Dunn, Megan <Megan.Dunn@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Peterson, Strom <Strom.Peterson@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Low, Sam <Sam.Low@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Nehring, Nate <nate.nehring@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Twiford, Taylor <Taylor.Twiford@co.snohomish.wa.us>
Subject: Sales of fireworks in South Snohomish County

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

Dear Council Members,

I urge you to prohibit the sale of fireworks anywhere they are illegal to use. Churches and charities have had more than a year to make plans for other revenue. What happened to the old bull and oyster roast?

Fireworks have not diminished in my neighborhood. The readout on my air filter was 165 on the 4th of July. I feel lucky to have such a machine. What happens to those who must keep windows open in the heat of summer nights and get the full dose of exploding chemical compounds?

I have confronted neighbors during fireworks parties. I have been intimidated by huge drunken men surging around me to tell me what they think of my objection to their illegal activity.

I have come out of my house the next day to see spotted towhees eating the remnants of explosives on the ground. The rainwater finally gets it out of their reach but where does it go? To the orcas.

Please! It does not make sense to SELL explosives where it is illegal to use them.

Sincerely,
Kate Lunceford
Bothell

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"Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better." Maya Angelou