



City Council Agenda Item

City Council Meeting Date: June 2, 2020

TO: Jim Throop, City Manager

FROM: Mario Guerrero Jr., Recreation Manager
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SUBJECT: Discussion of Potential Postponement or Other Modification of the 2020 Fourth of July Fireworks Show Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic

Recommendation:

Staff recommends City Council review the staff report; and provide direction if the City Council deems necessary.

Background:

The City has held an annual 4th of July Fireworks Show at Lompoc High School Huyck Stadium for over 30 years. The show has had the following attendance over the last three years:

Year	Approx. # of attendees plus comp tickets
2019	2,500
2018	2,700
2017	2,300

In 2019, the Lompoc High School District began renovation of Huyck Stadium to install a new synthetic track and turf at the high school. Due to the renovations, the City will no longer be able to hold the fireworks show at the stadium, as such a show could damage the synthetic turf.

In January 2020, the Lompoc City Council directed staff to evaluate other potential venues for the 2020 4th of July Fireworks Show.

On March 3, 2020, after reviewing the pros and cons of the following locations, the City Council directed staff to move forward with a 4th of July Fireworks Show to be held at Ryon Park:

- John-Mansville Park
- Agricultural Fields (west of City)
- Lompoc Airport
- River Bend Park
- River Park
- Ryon Park

On April 21, 2020, after reconsideration of the following locations, the City Council directed staff to research permitting required and potential traffic and fire impacts of the following potential venues. The City Council also tasked themselves with fundraising the estimated gap of \$14,900 if one of the sites was deemed feasible as the venue for the 2020 show.

- Agricultural Fields
- River Park

Discussion:

Due to the COVID-19 worldwide pandemic and the Governor’s Executive Order No. N-33-20 requiring residents to heed any orders and guidance of state and local public health officials, including but not limited to staying at home except to conduct essential services and activities, and advising residents to practice social distancing when away from home¹, staff is returning to the City Council with the 2020 4th of July Firework Show for further discussion of the following:

1. Postponement of the 2020 Fourth of July Firework Show
2. Different Venue / Different Type of Show: Another option staff is evaluating, is moving the venue to an alternate location and changing to “High-level” mortars that would produce a larger blast radius and be visible to those residents staying at home.

Fiscal Impact:

The fiscal impact of postponement of the firework show would be zero, since the City paid the \$5,000 deposit to lock in the price for this year or 2021 Fireworks Show.

The fiscal impact of choosing an alternate location as described in the discussion (high level mortars visible from homes) would be as follows:

¹ In addition, on May 26, 2020, the Santa Barbara County Public Health Department extended its order banning “live performance venues” until June 30, 2020, which could also be extended to a later date. Violation of the order is a criminal misdemeanor or can subject the violator to civil penalties.

Estimated Costs		Estimated Revenue	
Fireworks	\$25,000	Percent of 2019 Booth Sales	\$15,600
Fencing	2,000	GAP – Loss of ticket sales	14,900
Staffing / Fire Control	3,500	Total Revenue	\$30,500
Total Cost	\$30,500	<u>Possible Means of Closing Gap</u>	
		Seek Additional Sponsorships	\$8,400*
		Donation – Chumash	\$5,000*
		Donations – Private	\$1,500*

With regards to the amount of funding that the City Council members have been able to raise towards the estimated funding needs due to the loss of ticket sales in the amount of \$14,900, details of the donation contribution amounts, donors nor receipt of such funds has been received as of the date this report was due.

In addition to the loss of ticket sales \$14,900; after review and evaluation of the permitting, traffic and fire hazard mitigation requirements, the project budget will need to be increased to make up impacts to the general fund budget for police and fire overtime necessary to staff the firework show. The impact to the general fund is estimated at \$1,013.37 - \$1,399.17.

Conclusion:

Staff seeks City Council direction regarding whether to move forward with a fireworks show or to allow for other suggestions the City Council may have due to the limited time constraints for making a decision with regards to the show.

Respectfully submitted,

Mario Guerrero Jr., Recreation Manager

Christie Alarcon, Community Development Director

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE CITY COUNCIL:

Jim Throop, City Manager