

From: James Bigelow [mailto:jebigelow@gmail.com]

Sent: Sunday, May 9, 2021 7:27 PM

To: Robert Luna <Robert.Luna@longbeach.gov>; Xavier Espino <Xavier.Espino@longbeach.gov>; Prosecutor <Prosecutor@longbeach.gov>; Linda Tatum <Linda.Tatum@longbeach.gov>; Council District 1 <District1@longbeach.gov>; Council District 2 <District2@longbeach.gov>; Council District 3 <District3@longbeach.gov>; Council District 4 <District4@longbeach.gov>; Council District 5 <District5@longbeach.gov>; Council District 6 <District6@longbeach.gov>; Council District 7 <District7@longbeach.gov>; Council District 8 <District8@longbeach.gov>; Council District 9 <District9@longbeach.gov>; Art Sanchez <Art.Sanchez@longbeach.gov>; Gary Anderson <Gary.Anderson@longbeach.gov>; CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>; City Manager <CityManager@longbeach.gov>

Cc: Mayor <Mayor@longbeach.gov>

Subject: North Poly (west division) Fireworks

-EXTERNAL-

Greetings,

Last year I attended the several Zoom public meetings with officials such as Councilman Austin.

I understand the administrative and enforcement challenges for the city on why the illegal firework issue worsens every year. As a member of the HOA Board for over 10 years, I have fielded this question from owners more than I can remember - why is this getting worse and why the city is perceived to be doing nothing. I have for years communicated with law enforcement leadership and passed along what was learned from these exchanges to the 58 homeowners of this association.

I am weary of giving the response that the city is doing the best it can with the tools at your disposal. Since we have neighbors who consistently set off fireworks every year without consequence, I cannot help but see that there is an unwillingness for law enforcement to engage since the laws are not easy to enforce and they would rather not even attempt to do so. It would be so easy on 19th street between LB Blvd and Pasadena, for example - there are regulars who do this every night from Memorial Day to the end of summer, every year. I wonder how the new tenants at the LINC delLast night the volley went on for 10-15 minutes and it is only Mother's Day, but why bother even calling it in when the arrests are so low? How hard could it be for West Division to monitor the night time sky and see that a cluster of firework activity usually emanates from some areas and deploy resources accordingly?

Although I understand the challenges, it is my view that the city has been overlong in it's response and, as result, will be losing this struggle to keep some lid on this escalating issue - one that makes living in Long Beach more untenable every year. As a long time resident and Board member serving over 10 years, I can assure you that the firework issue is one the primary reasons that owners will sell and move on.

Please publicize the portal and other tools developed last year, update the community on the progress with the legislative process, and for pity's sake let our taxpayer-paid LBPDP officers know that we are fed up and don't see much willingness to use any tactics to enforce the possession laws or to use the threat of enforcement to discourage scofflaws. How much can ordinary residents be expected to put themselves on the line in order to get some enforcement? Are we supposed to stake out our neighbors?

If you can stake out drug dealers' homes, why not also serial firework offenders and get some arrests to show the public that enforcement is a priority.

Thank you,

James E. Bigelow

From: Jim Birge [mailto:birgebergeron@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, May 11, 2021 7:42 AM

To: Mayor <Mayor@longbeach.gov>; City Manager <CityManager@longbeach.gov>; Linda Tatum <Linda.Tatum@longbeach.gov>; Robert Luna <Robert.Luna@longbeach.gov>; Xavier Espino <Xavier.Espino@longbeach.gov>; Prosecutor <Prosecutor@longbeach.gov>; Council District 1 <District1@longbeach.gov>; Council District 2 <District2@longbeach.gov>; Council District 3 <District3@longbeach.gov>; Council District 4 <District4@longbeach.gov>; Council District 5 <District5@longbeach.gov>; Council District 6 <District6@longbeach.gov>; Council District 7 <District7@longbeach.gov>; Council District 8 <District8@longbeach.gov>; Council District 9 <District9@longbeach.gov>; Art Sanchez <Art.Sanchez@longbeach.gov>; Gary Anderson <Gary.Anderson@longbeach.gov>; CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>

Subject: Quality of Life for Long Beach Residents

-EXTERNAL-

To Whom it *Should* Concern:

I am not sure why the term "fireworks" sounds so innocent. Below is just one of hundreds of examples why we need to get a grip on the fireworks problem. These are **explosions**, not sparklers.

I have omitted her name because I did not ask her permission to share her words, but the plea of one young mom, scared and desperate to protect her baby is a similar plea of thousands of residents in this City who continue to be terrorized by nightly blasts. We all know that this will surely increase as we approach July 4th. Perhaps her words will help you understand the urgency. Is there a plan?

"[Need some help.](#) Trying to put baby to sleep is hard enough not feeling hopeful about hearing fire works in May. I heard super loud one and all the car alarm went off and even I get little startled but trying to stay calm because I don't want my baby to get even more scared. Any suggestions? Anything I can put on the wall to block some loud sounds? We can't really do construction but maybe adding something on the windows helps to block some noise?"

Ask yourself: Should she be needing to do any of this?

Sincerely,

Donna Bergeron-Birge

"The beauty of the living world...has always been uppermost in my mind...I have felt bound by a solemn obligation to do what I could--if I didn't at least try-I could never again be happy in nature...there would be no peace for me if I kept silent."--**Rachel Carson** (1907-1964)

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

From: Katrinka Foster [mailto:katrinkafoster@yahoo.com]


Sent: Tuesday, May 11, 2021 11:42 AM

To: Council District 1 <District1@longbeach.gov>; Council District 8 <District8@longbeach.gov>; Council District 9 <District9@longbeach.gov>; Council District 9 <District9@longbeach.gov>; LBPDCCommander-North <LBPDCCommander-North@longbeach.gov>; LBPDCCommander-East <LBPDCCommander-East@longbeach.gov>; LBPDCCommander-West <LBPDCCommander-West@longbeach.gov>; LBPDCCommander-South <LBPDCCommander-South@longbeach.gov>; Council District 1 <District1@longbeach.gov>; Council District 2 <District2@longbeach.gov>; Council District 3 <District3@longbeach.gov>; Council District 4 <District4@longbeach.gov>; Council District 5 <District5@longbeach.gov>; Council District 6 <District6@longbeach.gov>; Council District 7 <District7@longbeach.gov>; Council District 8 <District8@longbeach.gov>; Mayor <Mayor@longbeach.gov>; senator.rendon@senate.ca.gov; Senator.Gonzalez@senate.ca.gov; anthony.lopez@longbeach.gov; Robert Luna <Robert.Luna@longbeach.gov>; City Manager <CityManager@longbeach.gov>; CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>; Prosecutor <Prosecutor@longbeach.gov>

Subject: Fireworks

-EXTERNAL-

To Whom it "Should" Concern:

I am not sure why the term "fireworks" sounds so innocent. Below is just one of hundreds of examples we need to get a grip on the fireworks problem. These are explosions, not sparklers. I have omitted her name because I did not ask her permission to share her words, but the plea of one young mom, scared and desperate to protect her baby is a similar plea of thousands of residents in this City who continue to be terrorized by nightly blasts. We all know that this will surely increase as we approach July 4th. Perhaps her words will help you understand the urgency. Is there a plan? "Need some help. Trying to put baby to sleep is hard enough not feeling hopeful about hearing fireworks in May. I heard super loud one and all the car alarm went off and even I get little startled but trying to stay calm because I don't want my baby to get even more scared. Any suggestions? Anything I can put on the wall to block some loud sounds? We can't really do construction but maybe adding something on the windows helps to block some noise?" And on top  f her plea our animals are just as hurt by all the bombs going off.

Ask yourself: Should she be needing to do any of this?

Sincerely,

Katrinka Foster

Sent from my iPhone

From: Wendy Lancaster [mailto:wendyzplace2001@yahoo.com]

Sent: Tuesday, May 11, 2021 9:42 AM

To: Mayor <Mayor@longbeach.gov>; City Manager <CityManager@longbeach.gov>; Linda Tatum <Linda.Tatum@longbeach.gov>; Robert Luna <Robert.Luna@longbeach.gov>; Council District 8 <District8@longbeach.gov>; Art Sanchez <Art.Sanchez@longbeach.gov>; Gary Anderson <Gary.Anderson@longbeach.gov>; CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>; Charlotte M. Blaire <cblaire@gmail.com>; Union Pacific Police <rmcc_in@up.com>; Al Austin <Al.Austin@longbeach.gov>

Subject: Fireworks are out of control!

-EXTERNAL-

I am the resident that resides at [REDACTED], Long Beach, CA 90807. I have lived in my house for 20 years. Through the years my street has been so peaceful and I love my neighbors.

I understand the pandemic happened. The homeless on the train tracks that break the fencing down at Atlantic and Del Amo and nightly little fires to cook their food with chemical smells burning and smoke drifting into my house because of an open window. Every now and then, It gets cleared out and then they come back and we are forgotten again. Trash building up back in that access way now that the clean up was done. The screaming and yelling of obscenities up and down those tracks have terrorized all our neighbors on my street. If you look at the record number of fires that have happened just in our area it is terrible.

Lately things have been getting out of hand with the fireworks. Not just the little spark rockets that go up and explode, I am talking about the mortar's. I don't mind fireworks but not in the residential area every single day. There is not a day that goes by that there is not an explosion. I have paid over \$1,000 to cut back my Cypress Pine trees because of the fear it will catch fire and my house will go down because of it. Complaints have been going out to your departments continuously yet it still continues. I feel so bad for the pets that go tortured by the booms every night. The Veteran that suffers from PTSD. I call in but because we don't see the actual person that is blowing up the firework nothing can be done. A helicopter will fly by and once it is out of sight, fireworks continue. I don't even feel like complaining anymore because I don't know if our voices are being heard.

I am pretty sure we have lost some really good residents that actually care about this city but because it is being over run, GOOD people are leaving and it keeps filling with people who trash this city.

Thank you for hearing me out.

Concerned resident of Long Beach.

Wendy Lancaster

From: Tracey South [mailto:phedup.south@gmail.com]

Sent: Sunday, May 9, 2021 5:40 AM

To: Mayor <Mayor@longbeach.gov>

Cc: Robert Luna <Robert.Luna@longbeach.gov>; Xavier Espino <Xavier.Espino@longbeach.gov>; Prosecutor <Prosecutor@longbeach.gov>; Linda Tatum <Linda.Tatum@longbeach.gov>; Council District 1 <District1@longbeach.gov>; Council District 2 <District2@longbeach.gov>; Council District 3 <District3@longbeach.gov>; Council District 4 <District4@longbeach.gov>; Council District 5 <District5@longbeach.gov>; Council District 6 <District6@longbeach.gov>; Council District 7 <District7@longbeach.gov>; Council District 8 <District8@longbeach.gov>; Council District 9 <District9@longbeach.gov>; Art Sanchez <Art.Sanchez@longbeach.gov>; Gary Anderson <Gary.Anderson@longbeach.gov>; CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>; City Manager <CityManager@longbeach.gov>

Subject: illegal fireworks nightly

-EXTERNAL-

Dear Mayor and others ,

Sunday morning. Mother's Day. I do not look forward to today or tonight.

For 3 years in a row, the "fireworks SEASON " starts on Mother's Day. And last night was bad enough.

I live in north long beach in the Best Trailer Park. We do not have fireworks in my trailer park because we have a good strict manager ; if anyone would dare, they'd be evicted.

If my 80 something year old manager can accomplish this it makes me wonder why not an armed police force, helicopters, high tech communications and a city council with a budget for it , can not.

We are tired of the rhetoric , promises and lack of action for this problem. This affects our quality of life, our quality of sleep and the mental health of our pets, our Veterans and wildlife.

The "we can't do anything if we don't see it" is meaningless because we citizens have seen you witnessing it and driving away.

Across the country my family lives in different cities that do not have this problem.

By ignoring it you are supporting illegal activity just as bad if not worse than illegal drugs.

I am so tired of spending hundreds and hundreds of dollars each year on my dog to medicate and board him because this city allows the punks to do what they want which is to torment the rest of us.

I live next to the DeForest wetlands which sad to say is not wet and the brush is already as dry as it would be in September.

Last summer the punks set it on fire several times ; just because the fire department did not see them do it, the residents here did.

I am angry , exhausted and jaded about the constant daily/nightly illegal fireworks.

Do better.

Tracey South