

Fireworks Advisory Committee
Recommendations
3rd. District



Solutions



Process

City of Long Beach Departments Interviewed

- Long Beach City Attorneys Office
- Long Beach City Prosecutor's Office
- Long Beach Fire Marshal
- Long Beach Lifeguard's
- Long Beach Police Department
- Long Beach Code Enforcement
- Long Beach Emergency Response Center
- Long Beach Animal Control

Neighboring Coast Cities Interviewed

- Newport Beach
- Huntington Beach
- Seal Beach
- Torrance
- Manhattan Beach
- Santa Monica
- Los Angeles Fire & Cert
- Rancho Cucamonga Fire



*We have conducted 21 sessions and interviews totaling 344 Committee hours.

Statistical Findings



Emergency Call Center

- July 4th.
- 3200 calls received by the Emergency Call Center in a 24 hour period.
- 60% increase over normal operational period.
- 1365 calls resulted in a response.
- 1092 Fireworks Related Calls
- 715 calls were received in a 45 minute period. 8:30 p.m. to 9:15 p.m, Averaging 16 calls a minute,
- 40 felony and misdemeanor arrests logged
- 46 citations logged
- July 3rd 1000 calls received

Collective Agency Action

- 235 Fire Department Responses
 - 45 Block Party Visits
 - 1 Tree Fire
 - 1 Trash Can Fire
 - 1 Garage Fire
 - 1 Boys Hand Blown Off
 - 1 Eye Injury
 - 287 Lifeguard Swimming Responses
 - 39 Boat Rescues
 - 56 Boat Assists
 - 4 Arrests
 - 461 Medical Incidents
- ### Arson Unit
- 11 Block Party Visits
 - 5 Citations Issued
 - 150 LBS of Illegal Fireworks Seized

Actionable Results

- 7000 LBS Illegal Fireworks Seized prior to July 4
- 40 Felony Arrests
- 46 Citations Written
- 56 Block Party Responses

Long Beach Memorial Hospital

7-2-17 1 Patient (R) Hand Laceration
Fireworks Related

Long Beach Community Hospital

7/4/17 1 Patient (L) Traumatic Hand Partial
Amputation Transmetacarpal of (L)
Left Hand

Resulting in 91 actionable/enforcement encounters. The LBPD made 36 arrests and citations. *The estimated overtime for 4th of July is \$600,000.



Long Beach Police Department



Description	July 4th EAP	Patrol Divisions	Totals
• Adult Felony Arrests	0	13	13
• Juvenile Felony Arrests	0	0	0
• Adult Misdemeanor Arrests	0	13	13
• Juvenile Misdemeanor Arrests	0	1	1
• Firework Citations	3	7	10
• Firework Items Confiscated	58	140	198
• Misdemeanor Citations	8	14	22
• Open Container Citations	5	1	6
• Traffic Citations	2	25	27
• Parking Citations	7	44	51
• Towed Vehicles	0	11	11
• Released Not Booked	1	0	1
• BBQ Citations	0	0	0
• Missing Children Located	4	0	4

Investigative Emphasis on suppliers:

- **Confiscated several thousand pounds of high-powered fireworks**
- **Seized over \$ 45,000 in currency**
- **Two loaded handguns and ammunition**
- **Seized what we believe to be Marijuana, Cocaine, Heroin & PCP**

• Regarding arrest and citation information from May 1, 2017 through August 31, 2017 I have attached a document highlighting the below information:

	May	June	July	August
• Arrest	0	3	3	0
• Citation	3	20	16	1

• Additionally, we spent approximately \$71,630 on July 4th in FY 17.



Long Beach Animal Shelter



4th. July Impact Long Beach Animal Shelter

Animal Impounds

Impounds		2014	2015	2016	2017
Daily Intake					
3-Jul	20	17	10	10	
4-Jul	10	7	22	5	
5-Jul	32	18	6	6	
6-Jul	21	6	25	15	
7-Jul	9	6	6	10	
July 3-10	142	86	108	66	

Avg daily impound	2014	2015	2016	2017
June	20	16	14	14
July	15	17	11	13
August	16	11	14	11
Avg daily intake (June-Aug)	17	15	13	13
8 day Avg - July	120	136	88	104

Animal Redemption

Redemptions		2014	2015	2016	2017
3-Jul	10	7	7	4	
4-Jul	0	2	1	2	
5-Jul	12	11	10	8	
6-Jul	8	5	6	3	
7-Jul	2	1	5	5	
July 3-10	47	38	39	26	

% redeemed 33% 44% 36% 39%

Long Beach Animal Control;

A strategic plan should be implemented to ensure a seamless message campaign between Long Beach Fire Department and the Long Beach Animal Shelter. Integration and frequency are key in effective messaging.



Recommendation's

Long Term

Short Term

LB Fire Department;

- **Social Media PSA – Development of new media messaging and distribution based on social science research on what motivates people to do the right thing and that such PSA's should model good behavior.**
- **Administrative Code Enforcement. The LBFD is ineffective at fireworks enforcement because the criminal enforcement requires an officer to witness the lighting (there are only 5 Arson Investigators that can do criminal enforcement. Because as many as 150 calls are holding officers don't witness violations.**

LBDP;

- **Administrative Code Enforcement process that would supplement the criminal enforcement. The LBDP is ineffective at fireworks enforcement because the criminal enforcement requires an officer to witness the lighting. Because as many as 150 calls are holding officers don't witness violations.**
- **Roving Safety Awareness Stops – A Pilot Program implementing safety awareness in the 3rd. District providing visitors informational handouts i.e.. Fireworks, Drugs and Barbeques are Illegal on Beaches and in Parks .**

Councilwoman – Data Development, Tracking & Management;

- **Go Long Beach Fireworks App. – Direct the installation on the Go Long Beach App. of a fireworks report. While callers will not receive an actionable response, it will provide a mechanism to report Illegal Fireworks use in their neighborhood and gather data which can be used to direct resources. The App. Should be designed to retain data and provide reports upon request.**

LB Fire Department;

- **Social Media PSA – Continued development of new media messaging, distribution, integrated graphics and signage. (Messaging needs to be Cool & Hip). Frequency is Key!**
- **Administrative Enforcement**
- **Creation of a strategic partnership plan to promote and enhance messaging. We have talked to a Coffee shop owner who would be interested in placing fireworks messaging on his Coffee Cup warmers for a four week period in 2019.**
- **Research and development of Drone technology to maximize effectiveness of enforcement of Illegal Fireworks use on 3rd. & 4th. Of July. (Feme is looking into developing protocol's for this)**
- **The Long Beach Cert program needs to be re-tasked to mirror the Los Angeles Fire Departments training and deployment for 4th. July and other special events. L.B. Cert is under utilized.**

LBDP:

- **An expanded implementation and deployment of Roving Safety Awareness Stops.**
- **Administrative Enforcement**

Councilwoman:

- **Education at the Elementary School level. (Fireworks are a Generational and Cultural issue).**
See Reddy Kilowatt aka Sparkie the Firecracker campaign – Addendum A
- **Evaluate data from Sales Tax & Bed Tax tracking to determine the nature of crowds on 3rd. & 4th. July. Is there a possible funding source available for Out of The Box Solutions?**
- **Community Service for all multiple time Illegal Firework Offender's mandatory!**
- **Development of an Amnesty Program and an alternative social outlet to enjoy July 4th. I.e.. Country Fair in The Park. Possibly a alternative Laser Light Show for 2020.**

Administrative Enforcement Concept

- The municipal code provides for an administrative enforcement of fireworks violations. There is not a mechanism to utilize this technique in the code. Administrative Citations / Warnings would be utilized by Long Beach Police Department, Long Beach Fire Department, Long Beach Lifeguards, Long Beach Park and Recreation and Marine Patrol. Citations would not require witnessing the actual lighting of a firework. Simply witnessing the use of fireworks
- Data from Citation Warnings would be utilized in a direct mail campaign to inform the individual that all Fireworks are Illegal and that future Citation's will include a monetary fine.
- Letters could be distributed to Administrative Citation recipients that their neighborhoods will be patrolled for potential Illegal Fireworks use.
- Administrative Citations could be sent to Landlords whose tenants use Illegal Fireworks.
- Home owners that host Block Parties where Illegal Fireworks are being set off would receive Administrative Citations and fines. This would be detailed in their block party permit. The fines should be large because the permittee has knowledge of the law before hand.
- The administrative citation would allow video evidence from a 3rd party. Animal Control uses video evidence in some enforcement actions.