

# AGENDA REGULAR MEETING ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

#### Commissioners:

Angela Isaiah-Payne
Breana Fonteno
Freeman Watkins
Hourie Taylor (Chair)
Lillian Hopson (Vice Chair)
Nadine Gills-Ward
Rick Pulido
Roye Love
William Koons

#### Alternates:

Christina Tresvant, Alt 1 Celia Villalpando, Alt 2 Vacant, Alt 3

#### Staff:

Eliza Jane Whitman, PE, LEED AP, ENV SP Director of Public Works
Jessica Coria, Senior Clerk
Reata Kulcsar, Sustainability Administrator – Utilities

Lona Laymon, Deputy City Attorney

"In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, if you require a disability related modification or accommodation to attend or participate in this meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please call the Public Works Department office at 310-952-1700 ext. 1823 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting." (Government Code Section 54954.2)

#### **PUBLIC INFORMATION**

**SPECIAL NOTICE**: DUE TO CORONA VIRUS COVID-19, NO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WILL BE ALLOWED INTO CITY HALL DURING THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING. THE MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED VIA REMOTE TELECONFERENCING USING THE ELECTRONIC "ZOOM" APPLICATION.

# Join Zoom Meeting: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/5219151079

Meeting ID: 521 915 1079

One tap mobile +16699006833,,5219151079# US (San Jose) +13462487799,,5219151079# US (Houston)

# Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose) +1 669 444 9171 US +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston) +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma) +1 929 205 6099 US (New York) +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC) +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago) +1 386 347 5053 US +1 564 217 2000 US +1 646 931 3860 US

Meeting ID: 521 915 1079

Find your local number: <a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/u/kcNnBxFTYr">https://us06web.zoom.us/u/kcNnBxFTYr</a>

Any members of the public wishing to provide public comment for the item(s) on the agenda may do so as follows:

- 1. <u>Live via Zoom Application</u>. Members of the public wishing to provide public comment in real-time can join the Zoom meeting remotely to provide their public comment live with their audio/video presented to the Environmental Commission. Members of the public wishing to do so should email <u>jcoria@carsonca.gov</u>, providing their real name and the phone number they will use to call in from, no later than 6:00 p.m. on the date of the meeting. For further details/requirements and meeting invite information, please email <u>jcoria@carsonca.gov</u> no later than 6:00 p.m. on the date of the meeting.
- Email: You can email comments to <u>icoria@carsonca.gov</u> no later than 3:00 p.m. before the meeting. Please identify the Agenda item you wish to address in your comments. Written public comments received will not be read aloud and will be circulated to the Environmental Commissioners and incorporated into the record.
- 3. <u>Telephone:</u> You can provide real-time public comment by calling 1-669-900-6833, entering the **Meeting ID: 521 915 1079** on the date of the meeting up until the time that the applicable public comment period (generally during the portion of the agenda entitled "Oral Communications") concludes. While participating, please state your name and identify the agenda item you wish to address in your comments.

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. ROLL CALL
- III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- IV. INTRODUCTIONS/PRESENTATIONS
  - a. Presentation from the California Air Resources Board
- V. PUBLIC ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

The public may address the Commission on any matters within the jurisdiction of the Carson Environmental Commission or on any items on the agenda of the Carson Environmental Commission, prior to any action taken on the agenda. Speakers are limited to no more than three minutes, speaking once. Oral communications will be limited to one (1) hour unless extended by order of the Chair with the approval of the Environmental Commission.

- VI. CONSENT CALENDAR
  - 1. Approval of Minutes for June 1, 2022
- VII. CONTINUED/UNFINISHED BUSINESS
  - 2. Update of Fireworks
- VIII. NEW BUSINESS
  - 3. Update of Trees
- IX. COMMISSION MEMBERS REQUESTS TO ADD ITEMS TO FUTURE AGENDAS
  - a. List attached
- X. COMMISSION MEMBERS ORAL COMMUNICATIONS
- XI. STAFF ORAL COMMUNICATIONS
- XII. ADJOURNMENT

Upcoming Meetings: September 7, 2022 October 5, 2022 November 2, 2022

This Board/Commission/Committee is subject to the Ralph M. Brown Act. Among other things, the Brown Act requires that the Board/Commission/Committees agenda be posted at least 72 hours in advance of each meeting and that the public be allowed to comment on agenda items before the Board/Commission/

Committee and items not on the Board/Commission/Committee agenda but are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board/ Commission/ Committee. The Board/Commission/Committee may limit public comments to a reasonable amount of time, generally three (3) minutes per person.

# MINUTES June 1, 2022 ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

AGENDA POSTING: May 26, 2022

Given the emergency declaration through the State related to COVID-19 this meeting is being held pursuant through zoom application. Members of the public wishing to provide public input may do so in real time, via the zoom meeting link that is provided in the agenda packet. They may also email comments and may provide real time public comments by calling the number that is listed in the agenda packet. In accordance with the Brown Act, as amended on January 1, 1987, a copy of the Agenda Face Sheet for this meeting was posted in five (5) public places throughout the city designated for the posting of such notices seventy-two (72) hours prior to this meeting.

CALL TO ORDER: Chair – Hourie Taylor called to order the meeting of the

Environmental Commission Meeting at 6:34 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Commissioner Pulido

ROLL CALL: Recording Secretary Coria noted the following:

Present: Commissioners Koons, Hopson, Taylor,

Pulido, Watkins, Love, and Fonteno Alternate

Villalpando

Absent: Gills-Ward, Isaiah-Payne, and Alternate

Tresvant

Also Present: Public Works Director Whitman and

Recording Secretary Coria

Deputy City Attorney Lona Laymon

#### **INTRODUCTIONS/ PRESENTATIONS:**

1. New Environmental Commission Member, Christina Tresvant (Alt. No 1)

2. Presentation about the Los Angeles County Sanitation District, Joint Water Pollution Control Plant from Basil Hewitt, Public information Supervisor

Rupam Soni from the Metropolitan Water District also did a presentation. Basil Hewitt answered commissioners and staff questions. Basil also extended a tour that the Sanitation District does that shows people around the plant. Rupam answers questions about a new program that the State is working on for reclaimed water. Basil and Rupam provides helpful links that provide more information.

Commissioner Koons motions to add an emergency item on the agenda to have a presentation about putting truck idling signs throughout the City by Robina from the California Safe Schools. Vice Chair Hopson makes a substitute motion to have the presentation on the next meeting. City Attorney Lona goes over what is considered an emergency item to be put on the agenda.

Commissioner Watkins seconds Vice Chair Hopson's motion to move this presentation next meeting.

Vote for substitute motion to not add the presentation as an emergency item to the agenda but rather move it to the next meeting:

AYES: Hopson, Taylor, Watkins NOES: Pulido, Koons, Villalpando

ABSTAIN: Love

Commissioner Fonteno left meeting due to emergency. Motion does not pass.

Vote for motion to add this presentation to the agenda by 2/3 vote of the present bodies or if less then 2/3 has to be an unanimous vote:

AYES: Pulido, Koons

NOES: Hopson, Taylor, Watkins ABSTAIN: Love, Villalpando

Motion does not pass.

# **PUBLIC ORAL COMMUNICATIONS ON AGENDA ITEMS:**

Robina from California Safe Schools speaks on bringing up her organization that works with residents on placing "NO Idling" signs around the City, to also identify areas that can reduce emissions that impact the health of the residents. Commissioner Pulido asks if there will be any charges or funding needed from the City for the signs. Robina states there will be no costs. Chair Taylor asks if this will fall under the prevision of Public Works and Robina says yes it does along with CARB & AQUMD to where the placement of the signs. Commissioner Koons states where the signs need to be placed and the other question is the size and where to place the sign.

#### **CONSENT CALENDAR:**

# 1. Approval of minutes for May 4, 2022

Vice Chair Hopson motions to approve the minutes. Alt. Villalpando seconds motion.

Commission Pulido asks on updates on what was put in the minutes from May minutes regarding a presentation to be given by Coalition for Safe Environment and a tour of the 157-acre, and CRA audit. Commissioner Pulido also feels also the minutes are not complete. Vice Chair Hopson states that we have to do one thing at a time and Chair Taylor states as people come available and staff does the research, items will be put on the agenda.

Commissioner Koons moves to approve the consent calendar & Commission Love seconds.

AYES: Hopson, Taylor, Watkins, Love, Villalpando, Koons

NOES: Pulido ABSTAIN: None

#### **CONTINUED/ UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

#### 2. Fireworks Letter Update

Commissioner Pulido asked when the letter was sent and if there was any comments. Director Eliza Jane states that she sent the letter to City Manager David Roberts to forward to Council. Chair Taylor asks about another City, Rancho Palos Verdes, about passing to increase firework fines by Council. City attorney explains that they are admin fines, not criminal fines, that will be cited by their Code Enforcement. She also explains the study that the city did to increase the fine and that is not a simple process. Chair Taylor asks about the at-hoc committee for fireworks and if it still exists, staff does not know. Alt. Villalpando comments on the letter about there is no suggestion to stop the selling of the safe and sane fireworks along with the illegal fireworks. Commissioner Pulido wants a follow-up after this fourth of July along with monitoring the pollution levels before and after the fourth of July. The commission will wait to see if there will be any comments from council about the letter. Alt. Villalpando made an announcement that animal shelters euthanize animals during the Fourth of July to make room for other animals that get caught when they are out.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

None.

### **COMMISSION MEMBERS REQUESTS TO ADD ITEMS TO FUTURE AGENDAS:**

#### 3. List attached

Commissioner Koons wants a vote on what will be on the next agenda and wants the agenda to go off what the priority is listed. Chair Taylor states that the list that is provided is not in priority in order but rather what can be planned and what is available at the time. Commissioner Koons wants the "Truck queuing/ parking on Lomita" reworded to "Idling parking of trucks in the City." Commissioner Koons also wants to add more presentations by Elisa Rivera from CBE and Robina from California Safe Schools and an update on the trees. Commissioner Pulido is requesting a tour on the 157-acre and an update from staff on what is going in the CRA like the one that Assistant City Manager John Raymond gives. Commissioner wants a full audit and report on the spending of the funds of the CRA. Vice Chair Hopson states that there is video meetings that are available that are posted that the commission can go and view. Commissioner Pulido wants a report or presentation in the commission meeting. City attorney states there can be a report given but it will not be in full detail nor an audit can be provided since this matter is under litigation. City attorney also states that if the commission wants a general status on the environmental systems are at, John Raymond can provide that. Staff will reach out and see when John Raymond is available to provide this information. Commissioner Love is recommending to add the Interstate 405 Multi-mobile Grant on a future agenda list. Director Eliza Jane comments that staff can discuss at the next meeting the types of grants that Public Works is after. City Attorney calls for a vote to agree on the list that is provided, along with what the commissioners have added. Alt. Villalpando wants to add a presentation by the Communities for Social Environment. Commission Pulido wants to add slurries, sidewalk, and pothole issues that have been going on in district two and four, talk about adding more trees in the south, and the 220th potholes. Question was raised by the Chair if slurries, sidewalks, and potholes fall under the Environmental commission rather than

the Public Works commission. There is a total of 10 items added to the agenda along with edits to the wording of what is already on the list.

Commissioner Pulido motions to add more items to the list and Chair Taylor seconds motion.

AYES: Taylor, Hopson, Love, Villalpando, Koons

NOES:

**ABSTAIN: Watkins** 

Motion passes.

# **COMMISSION MEMBERS ORAL COMMUNICATION:**

Commissioner Koons wants the Chair and staff to let the commission know what will be on the agenda for next meeting. Director Eliza Jane says she will do an update on the trees on the next meeting. Chair Taylor states that staff will try and get a CRA update and presentation by Jesse Marquez from Coalition for a Safe Environment at the next meeting.

Commissioner Pulido comments on how the meeting went and thank everyone for hearing him on the issues that is going on district two and four.

Commissioner Koons comments on talking about the truck idling and the pollution. He also likes that Chair states what staff will try and get on the next agenda so the commission is aware.

Chair Taylor states to be respectful to staff and there is a process to come up with the agenda and to be civil. Chair also gives out his contact information so the commission can reach out to him. City Attorney advises to be aware of the Brown Act.

#### STAFF ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

#### **ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further discussion, on a motion by Chair Taylor and seconded by Vice Chair Hopson, the meeting was adjourned at 8:59 p.m. to the next regular meeting to be held on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of July 2022, at the hour of 6:30 p.m., via zoom.

CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:

RECORDING SECRETARY



# ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

**August 3, 2022** 

TO: ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

FROM: REATA KULCSAR, SUSTAINABILITY ADMINISTRATOR – UTILITIES

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON FIREWORKS

On June 21, 2022, the Carson City Council approved Resolution No. 22-133 amending the administrative citation fine amounts for violations of the Fireworks Ordinance involving illegal fireworks at the following amounts: \$2,000 for a first violation, \$3,000 for a second violation within one year from the date of the first violation, and \$5,000 for each additional violation within one year from the date of the first violation. The staff report and executed resolution is attached as a reference.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Receive and File.

# **ATTACHMENTS**

- 1. City Council Staff Report from June 21, 2022
- 2. Resolution No. 22-133



# CITY OF CARSON

# **Legislation Text**

File #: 2022-545, Version: 1

# **Report to Mayor and City Council**

Tuesday, June 21, 2022
Discussion

#### SUBJECT:

CONSIDER ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 22-133 TO AMEND THE ADMINISTRATIVE CITATION FINE AMOUNTS FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE CITY'S FIREWORKS ORDINANCE INVOLVING ILLEGAL FIREWORKS (CITY COUNCIL)

#### I. SUMMARY

This item is being brought to the City Council pursuant to the request of the City Council at the June 7<sup>th</sup> Council meeting and the recommendation of the Bingo/Fireworks/Refuse Ad Hoc Committee made at its June 14 meeting.

Illegal fireworks continue to be possessed, sold, and discharged rampantly in the City of Carson around the Fourth of July season annually despite being prohibited by the City's Fireworks Ordinance and punishable by administrative fines currently set at \$1,000 for a first violation, \$2,000 for a second violation within one year from the date of the first violation, and \$3,000 for each additional violation within one year of the first violation.

During its June 7<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting, the City Council requested consideration of this item, and on June 14, the Bingo/Fireworks/Refuse Ad Hoc Committee provided a recommendation to staff to present a proposed resolution for Council consideration to set the administrative fine amounts for violations of the Fireworks Ordinance involving illegal fireworks at the following amounts: \$2,000 for a first violation, \$3,000 for a second violation within one year from the date of the first violation.

# **II. RECOMMENDATION**

TAKE the following actions:

ADOPT Resolution NO. 22-133, "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CARSON, CALIFORNIA, RESCINDING RESOLUTION NO. 21-065 AND AMENDING THE ADMINISTRATIVE CITATION FINES TO BE ASSESSED FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE CITY'S FIREWORKS ORDINANCE INVOLVING ILLEGAL FIREWORKS." (Exhibit No. 1)

#### III. ALTERNATIVES

TAKE another action that Council deems appropriate.

# IV. BACKGROUND

Many cities in California are facing challenges with the noise and hazard of illegal fireworks being discharged within their communities and are implementing different programs and tools to address these issues. Carson is no exception. The City Council and the Bingo/Fireworks/Refuse Ad Hoc Committee have expressed a desire to address these concerns by deterring and ideally eliminating the use of illegal fireworks while continuing to permit the use and sales of legal safe and sane fireworks subject to existing restrictions. One of the measures the City Council has taken in an effort to eliminate illegal fireworks being used rampantly each year is increasing the administrative fines assessed for violations of the City's Fireworks Ordinance involving illegal fireworks.

On April 3, 2007, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 07-032 pursuant to Carson Municipal Code (CMC) Section 1203.3(d), providing that any violation of CMC Sections 3101.0, 3101.1, 3101.7, 3101.8, or 3101.9 of the Fireworks Ordinance may be assessed an administrative citation fine of up to \$1,000, except that violations for possessing and/or discharging fifty or fewer individual pieces of non-aerial fireworks shall be not less than \$500 if the violation is that person's first violation for possessing and/or discharging fifty or fewer individual pieces of non-aerial fireworks.

On May 18, 2021, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 21-065, setting the administrative fines for violations of the City's Fireworks Ordinance involving illegal fireworks at \$1,000 for a first violation, \$2,000 for a second violation within one year from the date of the first violation, and \$3,000 for each additional violation within one year from the date of the first violation. (Exhibit No. 2)

Later in 2021, the City worked with the Sheriff's Department to create an enhanced illegal fireworks suppression plan, and on October 19, 2021, the City Council approved a three-year service contract with Team Legal, Inc. to provide process server services that enable staff to notify the cited person that a small claims case is being filed against them. From 2018 to 2021, the City's average collection for Fireworks fines was 48%. Enlisting the assistance of a process server is expected to increase the collection rate.

Despite the increased fines, the total number of administrative citations issued in Carson in 2021 remained at approximately the same level as it did in 2020 (82 citations issued in 2021 vs. 85 issued in 2020). These figures represented an increase from the prior year totals of 49 citations in 2019 and 67 citations in 2018.

These figures, taken together with the fact that the City devoted substantially the same amount of resources to enforcement of such violations in 2020 and 2021 (having budgeted the same amount each year for the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department task force that is charged with enforcing such violations in the City) indicate that the increased fines

adopted in 2021 pursuant to Resolution No. 21-065 did not have a significant deterrent effect, and that a further increase to the fine amounts is needed in order to achieve a significant deterrent effect, which will in turn serve to protect public health and safety from the fire and bodily injury hazards presented by illegal fireworks.

As outlined in the findings contained in the proposed resolution, according to MySafe:LA, a professional fire safety and community resilience organization which delivers critical life saving initiatives to students, families, and older adults living in the greater Los Angeles region: (i) on average, 19,500 fires related to fireworks are reported to fire departments every year; (ii) fireworks cause \$105 million dollars annually in property damage; (iii) on average, 9,100 fireworks injuries send people to area hospitals; and (iv) fireworks kill on average 5 people per year - often children. The City is at high risk of dangerous and costly building fires being caused by illegal fireworks given the dense urban development and high percentage of industrial facilities in the City, including oil refineries and other industrial facilities using or storing hazardous materials which if accidentally released due to a fire or explosion could pose a threat to public safety.

Accordingly, the proposed resolution would increase the fines for violations of the Fireworks Ordinance involving illegal fireworks to the following amounts: \$2,000 for a first violation (which represents a \$1,000 increase to the first violation fine amount as previously set by Resolution No. 21-065), \$3,000 for a second violation within one year from the date of the first violation (which represents a \$1,000 increase to the second violation fine amount as previously set by Resolution No. 21-065), and \$5,000 for each additional violation within one year from the date of the first violation (which represents a \$2,000 increase to the additional violation fine amount as previously set forth in Resolution No. 21-065).

Staff will also provide Public Information and Community Awareness through all social media platforms, Carson's Cable TV Channel, City of Carson website, flyers distributed throughout the City and a 30 second Public Service Announcement featuring our LASD Sheriff Captain and Los Angeles County Fire Department Captain.

#### V. FISCAL IMPACT

The total cost of implementation of the enhanced Suppression Plan along with the comprehensive public information and community awareness campaign is approximately \$42,000 that will be funded through Public Safety and Public Information Division budgets. The City will be able to impose higher fine amounts if the proposed resolution is adopted, and anticipates recovering a larger portion of the administrative fines imposed than in the past due to the enhanced collection process.

# VI. EXHIBITS

- 1. (Draft) Resolution No. 22-133 (pgs.5-9)
- 2. Resolution No. 21-065 (adopted 2021) (pgs.10-12)

File #: 2022-545, Version: 1

Prepared by: <u>Cristine Gaiennie, Revenue Manager/ Benjamin Jones, Assistant City Attorney/ Tarik Rahmani, Finance Director</u>

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 22-133**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CARSON, CALIFORNIA, RESCINDING RESOLUTION NO. 21-065 AND AMENDING THE ADMINISTRATIVE CITATION FINES TO BE ASSESSED FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE CITY'S FIREWORKS ORDINANCE INVOLVING ILLEGAL FIREWORKS

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Carson, a charter city ("City"), has broad authority under Article XI, Section 7 of the California Constitution and the City's Charter ("Charter") to establish, impose, and determine the amounts of administrative fines for violations of the Carson Municipal Code ("CMC"); and

WHEREAS, the City has the authority, pursuant to Chapter 2.5 (Administrative Citations) of Article I (General Provisions) of the CMC, to assess administrative fines by means of issuance of administrative citations for any and all violations of the CMC; and

WHEREAS, CMC Section 1203.3(d) provides that the administrative fines assessed by means of administrative citations issued for violations of the CMC shall be in the amounts specified by resolution of the City Council, or where no amount is specified, \$100 for a first violation, \$200 for a second violation of the same ordinance within one year from the date of the first violation, and \$500 for each additional violation of the same ordinance within one year from the date of the first violation; and

**WHEREAS**, for the protection of public safety, the City has adopted fireworks regulations, codified at Sections 3101 - 3101.10, inclusive, of Chapter 1 (Fire Prevention) of Article III (Public Safety) of the CMC (the "Fireworks Ordinance"); and

WHEREAS, illegal fireworks, defined in the Fireworks Ordinance as any fireworks other than "safe and sane fireworks" (which in turn is defined to have the meaning given in California Health and Safety Code Section 12529), pose a threat to public safety, as they have the potential to cause fires and bodily injury, in addition to causing public nuisance conditions such as loud noises, explosions, and smoke; and

WHEREAS, the Fireworks Ordinance prohibits the sale of illegal fireworks in the City; and

**WHEREAS**, CMC Section 3101.0(d) of the Fireworks Ordinance provides that "[i]t shall be unlawful for any person to discharge, use or possess illegal fireworks within the City of Carson"; and

WHEREAS, on May 18, 2021, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 21-065 pursuant to CMC Section 1203.3(d), which: (i) set the administrative fines for violations of the Fireworks Ordinance involving illegal fireworks at \$1,000 for a first violation, \$2,000 for a second violation within one year from the date of the first violation, and \$3,000 for each additional violation within one year from the date of the first violation; (ii) set the administrative fines for all violations of the Fireworks Ordinance involving safe and sane fireworks at \$1,000; and (iii) rescinded and repealed prior City Resolution No. 07-032; and

WHEREAS, the administrative fine amounts set by Resolution No. 21-065 have remained in

effect since its adoption; and

WHEREAS, illegal fireworks continue to be sold, discharged, used and possessed rampantly in the City around the Fourth of July season annually despite being prohibited by the Fireworks Ordinance and punishable by the administrative fines set forth above (in addition to constituting misdemeanors). The total number of administrative citations issued for illegal fireworks violations in 2021 was 82, which number was substantially the same as the total number for 2020 (85), despite the increased fines. These totals for 2020 and 2021 represented increases from the prior year totals of 49 citations in 2019 and 67 citations in 2018. These figures, taken together with the fact that the City devoted substantially the same amount of resources to enforcement of such violations in 2020 and 2021 (having budgeted the same amount each year for the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department task force that is charged with enforcing such violations in the City) indicate that the increased fines adopted in 2021 pursuant to Resolution No. 21-065 did not have a significant deterrent effect, and that a further increase to the fine amounts is necessary to achieve a significant deterrent effect; and

WHEREAS, according to mysafela.org: (i) on average, 19,500 fires related to fireworks are reported to fire departments every year; (ii) fireworks cause \$105 million dollars annually in property damage; (iii) on average, 9,100 fireworks injuries send people to area hospitals; and (iv) fireworks kill on average 5 people per year – often children; and

WHEREAS, the City of Carson is at high risk of dangerous and costly building fires being caused by illegal fireworks, given the dense urban development and the high percentage of industrial facilities in the City, including oil refineries and other industrial facilities using or storing hazardous materials which if accidentally released due to a fire or explosion could pose a threat to public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, accordingly, due to the fire danger and risk of bodily injury associated with illegal fireworks, the City Council finds that it must act to again increase the administrative fines for violations of the Fireworks Ordinance involving illegal fireworks in order to increase the deterrent effect of the City's prohibition of illegal fireworks, thereby reducing the number of violations and protecting public safety; and

WHEREAS, the City Council now sees fit to set the administrative fine amounts for violations of the Fireworks Ordinance involving illegal fireworks at the following amounts: \$2,000 for a first violation (which represents a \$1,000 increase to the first violation fine amount as previously set by Resolution No. 21-065), \$3,000 for a second violation within one year from the date of the first violation (which represents a \$1,000 increase to the first violation fine amount as previously set by Resolution No. 21-065), and \$5,000 for each additional violation within one year from the date of the first violation (which represents a \$2,000 increase to the additional violation fine amount as previously set forth in Resolution No. 21-065); and

WHEREAS, the City Council also sees fit to make the aforementioned administrative fines mandatory, with the exception of fines for violation of Section 3101.07 ("Liability of Resident Where an Illegal Use of Fireworks Occurs") of the City's Fireworks Ordinance, which fines the City Council believes should be discretionary only as to residents of premises from which illegal fireworks are discharged if the resident was not actively and directly involved in the discharge of same; and

**WHEREAS**, for consistency with the aforementioned modified fine structure regarding illegal fireworks violations, the City Council sees fit to rescind and repeal Resolution No. 21- 065.

NOW THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CARSON DOES HEREBY FIND, DETERMINE, AND RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

- **SECTION 1.** The foregoing recitals are true and correct and are incorporated herein by reference as though set forth in full as findings of fact.
- **SECTION 2.** In addition to any criminal, civil or other legal remedies that may be available to the City of Carson to enforce violations of the Carson Municipal Code or applicable state codes:
  - A. Any violation of the City's Fireworks Ordinance (as defined above) involving illegal fireworks, as defined in CMC Section 3101.05(d), including but not limited to any violation of CMC Section 3101.0(d), shall be assessed an administrative citation fine as follows: (1) \$2,000 for a first violation; (2) \$3,000 for a second violation within one year from the date of the first violation; and (3) \$5,000 for each additional violation within one year from the date of the first violation. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any resident of premises who is in violation of CMC 3101.07 ("Liability of Resident Where an Illegal Use of Fireworks Occurs") due to the discharge of illegal fireworks from the premises, but who was not actively and directly involved in the discharge of same, may be assessed an administrative fine according to the foregoing fines amounts/structure.
  - B. Any violation of the City's Fireworks Ordinance (as defined above) not involving illegal fireworks, as defined in CMC Section 3101.05(d), may be assessed an administrative citation fine of \$1,000.
- **SECTION 3.** The adoption of this Resolution shall have the effect of rescinding and repealing Resolution No. 21-065.
  - **SECTION 4.** This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its adoption.
- **SECTION 5.** The City Clerk shall certify to the passage and adoption of this Resolution and enter it into the book of original Resolutions.

PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 21st day of June 2022.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:	CITY OF CARSON:
Sunny K. Soltani, City Attorney	Lula Davis-Holmes, Mayor
	ATTEST:
	Dr. Khaleah K. Bradshaw, City Clerk
STATE OF CALIFORNIA	)
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CITY OF CARSON	) ss. )
	of the City of Carson, California, hereby attest to and certify that to No. 22-133 adopted by the City of Carson City Council at its meet g vote:

AYES:

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Davis-Holmes, Hilton, Dear, Hicks, Rojas

NOES:

COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

ABSTAIN:

COUNCIL MEMEBES: None

ABSENT:

COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

Dr. Khaleah K. Bradshaw, City Clerk

# ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

August 3, 2022

TO: ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

FROM: ELIZA JANE WHITMAN, PE, LEED AP, ENV SP

**DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT** 

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON TREES

Staff will provide a presentation on the item.

# **RECOMMENDATION**

Receive and File.

# ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION ITEMS TO ADD FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

(NOT IN PRIORITY ORDER)

- Update on the Dominguez Channel (Resources and educational efforts)
- Update on the CRA / 157 acre site and tour, if possible.
- Presentation from Harold Williams, West Basin Municipal Water district
- City-wide tree update (presentations, availability of grant funding, city budget)
- Presentation from California Air Resources Board about truck idling signs in partnership with California Safe Schools
- Presentation by Elisa Rivera from CBE
- List of grants under consideration by the Public Works Department
- Invite local environmental groups to present about their top issues
  - o Jesse Marquez, Coalition for a Safe Environment
- Presentation about Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts, Joint Water Pollution Control Plant.
- Presentation by the Communities for Social Environment