

M E M O R A N D U M
City of Chino
Community Services,
Parks & Recreation Department

DATE: DECEMBER 22, 2025

TO: COMMUNITY SERVICES, PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

FROM: SILVA AVALOS, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES, PARKS & RECREATION; LISA CONLON, REVENUE MANAGER; AND FIREWORKS REVIEW SUB-COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: FIREWORKS MUNICIPAL CODE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2026

cc: File

BACKGROUND

On September 11, 2025, the Fireworks Review Sub-Committee met with Community Services, Parks & Recreation and Finance staff to review the 2025 fireworks season and evaluate the Fireworks section of the Municipal Code.

ISSUES/ANALYSIS

On November 18, 2025, the Fireworks Review Sub-Committee consisting of Vice Chairperson Jerry, Commissioners Aviles and Takeuchi, along with staff members from the Community Services, Parks & Recreation and Finance Departments reconvened to continue discussion from the September meeting, where the Commission and City staff identified the need to amend certain provisions of the City's Fireworks Ordinance (Chapter 8.12 of the Municipal Code) to clarify and strengthen its terms.

The Fireworks Review Sub-Committee is recommending the following Municipal Code additions and clarifications related to the sale of fireworks:

8.12.030 – Sales of Fireworks Retail Required.

- Reduce the maximum number of fireworks stand permits from 25 to 24.
- Continue reducing this number through attrition (surrendered, revoked, or non-renewed permits) until the total reaches 20 permits.

- Establish 20 permits as the permanent maximum number once that level is reached.

8.12.060 - Retail Permit—Prerequisites to issuance.

- The proposed amendment strengthens the eligibility requirements for fireworks retail permit applicants by specifying that all net revenues generated must be used exclusively to support programs and services that provide direct and measurable benefits to Chino residents.

8.12.065 - Fireworks Wholesaler Business License Requirement.

- Add requirements for a fireworks wholesaler business license.

8.12.080 - Temporary Fireworks Stands.

- Reinforce existing Municipal Code Title 15.04.180, which requires a building permit for any temporary tent or structure over 120 square feet, including fireworks stands.
- Update parking requirements to include an accessible route and designation of one accessible parking space within the required eight (8) parking spaces.

8.12.165 – Surcharge.

- Revise the surcharge from up-to-ten percent (10%) to a fixed rate of four and one-quarter percent (4.25%) as determined by historical cost analysis. No additional charges shall be assessed if the actual surcharge exceeds this fixed rate, nor shall any refunds be issued if the actual surcharge is less than the fixed rate.
- Clarify that the surcharge may not be represented, advertised, or listed as a tax on any signage, receipts, or documentation, and may not be charged to fireworks purchasers as a tax.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Community Services, Parks & Recreation Commission accept the recommendations of the Fireworks Review Sub-Committee and forward those changes to the City Council for their approval and adoption.

SA:ma