

San Pablo Police Department City Council Meeting



General Overview of Proposed COSP
Fireworks Ordinance Amendment
October 6, 2025





Background

In 2021, staff, with the support of the City Council, amended the San Pablo Municipal Code to prohibit fireworks and declare illegal fireworks a public nuisance.

- Prohibiting:
- 1) Use, Possess, Ignite, Discharge, & Explode
 - 2) Display for sale, Offer for sale
 - 3) Store, Manufacture

- Penalty:
- 1) Criminal/Infraction
 - 2) Administrative Action
 - 3) Civil Nuisance



ORDINANCE 2021-003

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN PABLO AMENDING TITLE 8, "HEALTH AND SAFETY," TO PROHIBIT FIREWORKS AND DECLARE ILLEGAL FIREWORKS TO BE A PUBLIC NUISANCE





Risk and Concerns

- Fire Hazard Risks - Structures/Homes are in danger
- Public Safety - Risk of injury to public and first responders
- Noise, Disturbance & Quality of Life - Loud & disruptive
- Illegal Commerce - Sale and possession of illegal fireworks



Fireworks Are **DANGEROUS** and a Public Safety Issue

BAY AREA

Four of 7 Yolo County fireworks warehouse explosion victims lived in Bay Area

by Amy Larson
Posted: Jul 11, 2025 / 11:16 AM PDT
Updated: Jul 11, 2025 / 06:28 PM PDT

Chargers running back Najee Harris injured in fireworks 'mishap' on Fourth of July

The veteran RB suffered a "superficial eye injury" but should be OK for the upcoming NFL season, his agent said.



- 07/01/25: Two San Pablo Residents (22yrs, 18yrs), Killed in Yolo County Fireworks Warehouse Explosion
- 07/04/25: NFL Superstar Running Back, Najee Harris injured his eye during a fireworks “mishap” at a party in Antioch



Contra Costa County Fire Protection District

July 8 · 🌐

July 4th: By The Numbers

Between 10:00 a.m. on July 4 and 3:00 a.m. on July 5, 2025-

- 🚒 271 total incidents responded to
- 📞 923 calls answered by Fire Dispatch
- 🔥 83 fires (exterior, vegetation, structure, and other)
- 🚑 143 EMS incidents
- 🚒 45 other incidents responded to

📊 About 14.5% total decrease from last year in the same time period

- July 2025: ConFire responded to (83) fires in Contra Costa County during 4th of July Celebrations





COSP Fireworks Data

Since January 2020, Officers have responded to 1,513 Fireworks Calls-for-Service



Vast majority of community do not report fireworks violations

Year	CFS	+/-
2020	443*	+403%
2021	440	-0.67%
2022	156	-73.8%
2023	151	-3.2%
2024	167	+10.59%
2025	156** (YTD)	+3.3%**

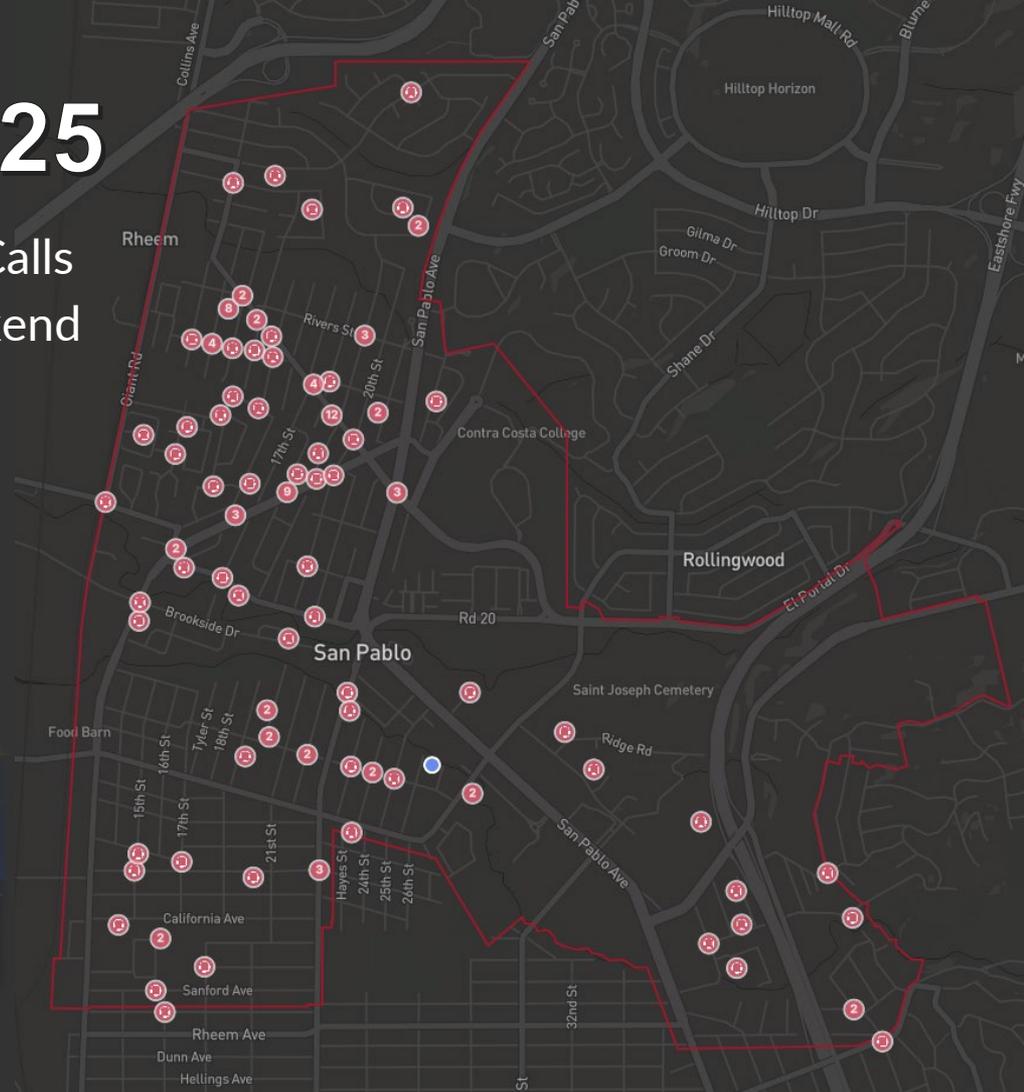
* (88) total CFS for Fireworks in 2019

**YTD January – October 1st



Fireworks CFS 2025

Officers responded to (133) Fireworks Calls from mid-June through 4th of July Weekend 2025.





San Pablo PD Efforts

- **Social Media Campaign:** Highlights Dangers Associated with Fireworks
- **Community Messaging:** Informational Flyers, Messaging Boards, Community Events & Meetings, etc.
- **Community Meetings:** Collaboration w/ ConFire & Community Leaders
- **Local LE Partnerships & Enforcement:** West County LE Agencies Work in Collaboration (Target Enforcement)
- **SPPD Fireworks Details:** Firework Enforcement Starting in June Through the 4th of July
- **4th of July & New Years Eve:** Extra Police Staffing

4th of July
Multi-Cultural Celebration

Tuesday, July 4th
5:00-9:00pm
San Pablo Community Center
(2450 Road 20)

NEW! - Lighted Drone Show!

FREE EVENT! Enjoy live music, food trucks, games and entertainment.
Headliners Kalimba-The Spirit of Earth Wind and Fire.

Shuttle Service 5:00 - 8:30pm
Contra Costa College to San Pablo Community Center

For more information, call (510) 215-3000 or visit
www.sanpabloca.gov/July4th

Sponsored in part by the San Pablo Senior Advisory Board

NO FIREWORKS NOT IN OUR NEIGHBORHOODS!

Fire Dept. Disposal 925-941-3300 | Police Dept. Info. 510-215-3130





Ordinance Amendment – General Overview

County of Sacramento (City of Citrus Heights)

- Social Host Liability/ Host Responsibility
- Strict Penalty & Fines
- Enforcement of Fireworks Ordinance

Amending the current COSP Fireworks Ordinance will:

- Increase accountability
- Hold Property Owners Responsible**
- Hold Tenants Responsible
- Stronger Tools for Police/Code Enforcement

* Note: *Approx. 70% of Property Owners live outside City limits*

ILLEGAL FIREWORKS CODE

SACRAMENTO COUNTY

- Violation Is Misdemeanor & Public Nuisance Fines:
- 1st Offense: \$1,000
- 2nd Offense: \$2,500
- Each Additional Offense: \$5,000
- Violations Within American River Parkway: \$10,000

3 KCRA

SAY NO
SAN PABLO

FIREWORKS
OUT IN OUR CITY

ALL FIREWORKS ARE ILLEGAL IN SAN PABLO. SALE, POSSESSION OR EXCHANGE IS PROHIBITED BY LAW FOR ALL AGES. VIOLATION WILL BE CITED.
Citizens Can Report Violations. Department of Fireworks, Services, 400 J. Ross California.
Illegal Fireworks Laws, Health and Safety Code, 122000-122099.

To report illegal fireworks, call San Pablo P.D. at 510-724-1113

SAN PABLO POLICE 925-841-3300 SAN PABLO POLICE 510-255-3088





Ordinance Amendment – General Overview

Expanded Prohibitions

- Continues existing prohibition on possession, sale, use, discharge of fireworks
- Extends liability to “Hosts”:
 - Owners/tenants held responsible for violations occurring on their own properties
 - Extends to violations occurring on public streets, sidewalks, and parks near private property

Increased Penalties:

- First Offense
 - \$1,000 administrative citation (each discharge)
- Second Offense within same 1-year period
 - \$2,500 administrative citation (each discharge)
 - Potential additional reimbursement of public safety personnel costs





Ordinance Amendment – General Overview

Proposed Ordinance Implementation / Timing:

- October 6, 2025: City Council Introduction of Ordinance
- October 20, 2025: City Council Adoption of Ordinance
- November 19, 2025: Ordinance becomes effective

Community Education/Outreach Campaign: *Once adopted, PD Staff plan to deliver a comprehensive education/outreach campaign prior to New Year's Eve Holiday.*





Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends the City Council review the proposed amendments, take public testimony, and introduce the attached ordinance amending the Fireworks Ordinance (Title 8) Chapter 8.42, revising existing regulations pertaining to the prohibition of fireworks within the City of San Pablo.

QUESTIONS?

