



Public Safety and Community Services Department  
Licence Office

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## **INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** CHAIR AND MEMBERS  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

**DATE:** 2020 February 18

**FROM:** DIRECTOR - PUBLIC SAFETY AND  
COMMUNITY SERVICES

**FILE:** 25000 - 01

**SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO COUNCIL'S REQUEST REGARDING THE FUTURE  
BAN OF FIREWORKS IN THE CITY OF VANCOUVER**

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At the open City Council meeting held on 2020 January 27, Council received a report (Attachment 1) from the Director - Public Safety & Community Services in regards to the current City bylaws surrounding the sale and use of fireworks. That report was drafted in response to citizens' complaints received after Halloween.

Arising from discussion, Council brought forward a question about reports that the City of Vancouver intended to introduce a fireworks ban. Council subsequently requested staff obtain additional information regarding Vancouver's potential fireworks ban and provide to the Public Safety Committee. This memorandum provides the information obtained by staff.

In November 2019, Vancouver City Council directed staff to work with Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services and the Vancouver Police Department to review and report back in 2020 on the feasibility to ban the retail sale as well as the use of consumer fireworks within the City of Vancouver by 2021. Considerations are to include:

- How to address enforcement and compliance with a ban on consumer fireworks;
- Exemptions for how display fireworks can still be used as part of large public events (Canada Day, Celebration of Light, New Year's Eve etc.) and cultural/religious occasions (Diwali, Chinese New Year Parade and celebrations, etc.);
- An authorized Fire permit from the City of Vancouver to ignite, explode, set off or detonate display fireworks within the guidelines and conditions of the permit, Vancouver Fire Bylaw, and the Canadian Explosives Regulations;
- Necessary by-law changes to facilitate a ban on the retail sale of consumer fireworks.

- Necessary amendments to the Fire By-law in order to facilitate a ban on the use of consumer fireworks.

At the time of writing this memo, Burnaby staff were unable to gather any additional information as the report to Vancouver City Council is not yet complete. Staff will continue to monitor the situation in Vancouver and provide an update to the Public Safety Committee once Vancouver implements their bylaw amendments.



Dave Critchley  
Director - Public Safety and Community Services

DC:ejh

Attachments (1)