
City Council**Notice of Motion**

MM35.24	ACTION			Ward: All
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Determining the feasibility of restricting the retail sale of consumer fireworks - by Councillor Frances Nunziata, seconded by Councillor Mark Grimes

** Notice of this Motion has been given.*

** This Motion is subject to referral to the General Government and Licencing Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Recommendations

Councillor Frances Nunziata, seconded by Councillor Mark Grimes, recommends that:

1. City Council request the Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards and the Fire Chief and General Manager, Toronto Fire Services, in consultation with relevant City divisions to report in the fourth quarter of 2021, to the General Government and Licensing Committee on the feasibility of restricting the retail sale of family fireworks to the public and restricting the use of family fireworks by the public.

Summary

Fireworks set off in urban areas have adverse effects on the livelihoods of local residents: 1) they cause excessive property damage, noise, and costs to the surrounding communities; 2) the misfiring, misuse, or malfunctioning of fireworks disproportionately affects children and youth; and 3) wild and domestic animals become disoriented by the loud noises and explosions, causing unnecessary confusion and anxiety.

Celebrations with fireworks also impact both human health and the environment. Studies have shown that firework displays produce large amounts of particulate matter, contributing to pollution and poor air quality in adjacent areas. The exposure to particulate matter is correlated with exacerbating underlying health conditions and increased mortality risks.

The City of Vancouver has taken steps to restrict the sale of consumer fireworks and explore measures to enforce compliance with the restriction. The City of Toronto could benefit from implementing measures that ensure the health and safety of local residents regarding fireworks.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM35.24