

PUBLIC SAFETY

MOTION

Under the Los Angeles Municipal Code, the general public is prohibited from possessing, using or selling fireworks anywhere in the city. While fireworks are illegal in the City of Los Angeles, they are still easily accessible in many other locations, and far too many Angelenos use them, believing they are harmless.

Fireworks not only pose a serious risk of injury, death and fires, but they are also a nuisance for communities across Los Angeles. In each of the last two years the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) has received over 8,000 phone calls regarding fireworks. LAPD has difficulty enforcing the laws against fireworks, however, because by the time an officer is dispatched and arrives on the scene, it is often hard to locate where the fireworks were coming from. Under the current criminal citation process, the violation has to be committed in the presence of an officer. This makes it difficult, if not impossible, to effectively enforce laws against fireworks. The city's current enforcement process is lengthy, costly and challenging for LAPD.

Cities throughout California use Administrative Citation Programs to assist in enforcing local public ordinances. Senate Bill 839, which went into effect in 2008, gave local jurisdictions the authority to use an administrative citation process to enforce ordinances on illegal fireworks. The City of Los Angeles adopted its own Administrative Citation Enforcement (ACE) Program Ordinance in 2013 to enforce city codes. Since its adoption, many departments, including the Animal Services Department, LAPD, the Bureau of Street Services, and the Los Angeles Fire Department, have used the program to enforce the city's codes effectively and efficiently and improve the quality of life in the city.

Unfortunately, the enforcement of violations of the laws prohibiting fireworks was not included in the ACE Program Ordinance. Incorporating fireworks enforcement into the city's ACE program would allow LAPD officers to enforce the city and state laws against fireworks even when the violation is not committed in the presence of the officer.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Attorney prepare and present an ordinance to the City Council in 60 days incorporating LA Municipal Code Section 57.5608.1.2, in addition to any other municipal code section regarding illegal fireworks, into the enforcement provisions of the Administrative Citation Enforcement (ACE) Program.

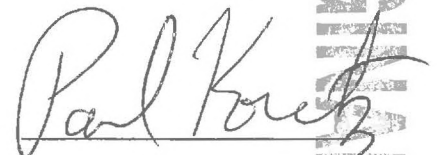
PRESENTED BY:



PAUL KREKORIAN

Councilmember, 2nd District

SECONDED BY:



JUN 12 2018

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