

**SECTION 14.07 OF ORDINANCE 2892 ESTABLISHING THE “SAN DIEGO UNIFIED PORT DISTRICT FIREWORKS DISPLAY EVENT ORDINANCE” AS ARTICLE 14 OF THE SAN DIEGO UNIFIED PORT DISTRICT CODE TO GOVERN EXISTING AND PROPOSED NEW FIREWORKS DISPLAYS**

**Section 14.07 - PERMITS - CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL**

All permits issued by the Executive Director shall be subject to the following terms and conditions:

**(a) LOCATION OF FIREWORKS DISPLAY EVENTS.**

**1. Fourth of July Fireworks Display Events shall occur only at the following locations:**

- A. Big Bay Boom, at up to four (4) locations in northern San Diego Bay;
- B. Fourth of July Imperial Beach Fireworks, at one (1) location along the Imperial Beach Pier;
- C. Fireworks Over Glorietta Bay, at one (1) location in Glorietta Bay;
- D. Chula Vista Fourth of July, at one (1) location adjacent to the Chula Vista Bayfront; and
- E. National City Fourth of July, at one (1) location adjacent to the National City Bayfront.

**2. Non-Fourth of July Fireworks Display Events shall occur only at the following locations:**

- A. National Steel and Shipbuilding Company (NASSCO) shipyard, not to exceed two (2) displays per year along NASSCO Pier 12;
- B. U.S.S. Midway Museum, not to exceed twenty-three (23) displays per year on or adjacent to the U.S.S. Midway Museum;
- C. San Diego Symphony Summer Pops Concerts, not to exceed twenty (20) displays per year adjacent to Embarcadero Marina Park South;
- D. Our Lady of Rosary Church Annual procession, not to exceed one (1) display per year along Harbor Drive and at end of Grape Street Pier; and
- E. Chula Vista Bayfront, not to exceed two (2) displays per year adjacent to the Chula Vista Bayfront.

**(b) DURATION OF FIREWORKS DISPLAY EVENTS.**

- 1. Fourth of July Fireworks Display Events shall not exceed twenty (20) minutes in duration.
- 2. Non-Fourth of July Fireworks Display Events shall not exceed ten (10) minutes in duration.

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**(c) SIZE OF FIREWORKS DISPLAY EVENTS.**

**1. Fourth of July Fireworks Display Events:**

- A. Big Bay Boom, not to exceed a cumulative 5,342 pounds of fireworks with shell sizes not to exceed 10 inches;
- B. Fourth of July Imperial Beach Fireworks, not to exceed 456 pounds of fireworks with shell sizes not to exceed 10 inches;
- C. Fireworks Over Glorietta Bay, not to exceed 397 pounds of fireworks with shell sizes not to exceed 10 inches;
- D. National City Fourth of July, not to exceed 400 pounds of fireworks with shell sizes not to exceed 8 inches; and
- E. Chula Vista Fourth of July, not to exceed 400 pounds of fireworks with shell sizes not to exceed 8 inches.

**2. Non-Fourth of July Fireworks Display Events:**

- A. NASSCO shipyard, not to exceed 281 pounds of fireworks per display with shell sizes not to exceed 6 inches, or a cumulative total of 439 pounds of fireworks per year;
- B. U.S.S. Midway Museum, not to exceed 235 pounds of fireworks per display with shell sizes not to exceed 6 inches, or a cumulative total of 1,759 pounds of fireworks per year;
- C. San Diego Symphony Summer Pops Concerts, not to exceed 95 pounds of fireworks per display with shell sizes not to exceed 6 inches, or a cumulative total of 1,498 pounds of fireworks per year;
- D. Our Lady of Rosary Church Annual procession, not to exceed 18 pounds of fireworks with shell sizes not to exceed 6 inches; and
- E. Chula Vista Bayfront, not to exceed 114 pounds of fireworks per display with shell sizes not to exceed 8 inches, or a cumulative total of 228 pounds of fireworks per year.

**(d) FIREWORKS CHEMICAL COMPOSITION AND PACKAGING.**

**1. Chemical Composition.**

- A. The Big Bay Boom Fourth of July Fireworks Display Event shall use Fireworks which contain no more than 0.32% copper (Cu) per pound of explosive firework material, unless the Applicant establishes in writing and to the satisfaction of the Executive Director that the total copper emissions from the proposed Big Bay Boom Fireworks Display Event will not exceed seventeen (17) pounds. Fireworks which do not conform to the foregoing requirement, but were lawfully purchased prior to the effective date of this article, may be used for a period of six months after the effective date of this article.
- B. All Fireworks Display Events shall use Alternative Fireworks produced with pyrotechnic formulas which replace perchlorate with other oxidizers and propellants that burn cleaner, produce less smoke and reduce pollutant waste loading to surface

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waters, unless the Applicant establishes in writing and to the satisfaction of the Executive Director that such Alternative Fireworks are not commercially available.

**2. Packaging.**

- A. Prior to commencement of a Fireworks Display Event, the Fireworks Operator shall remove and properly dispose of all packaging, wrapping and labels (excluding labels mandated by State or Federal laws) from all Fireworks to be used in the event.
- B. Fireworks that include a plastic outer casing or non- biodegradable inner components that make up more than five (5) percent of the mass of the shell or device are prohibited.

**(e) PROTECTION OF SENSITIVE SPECIES AND HABITAT.**

The following conditions shall apply to Fireworks Display Events that occur between February 15 and September 15 (i.e., avian breeding season) and are located less than one (1) mile from any federally or state-listed avian species nesting colonies:

**1. Location.**

Fireworks Display Events shall be located not less than one (1) mile from any federally or state-listed avian species nesting colony unless the maximum size of shells used in the event is limited to eight (8) inches.

**2. Salutes.**

Fireworks Display Events shall not use concussion type, non-color shells such as "salutes" or "reports" during the initial twenty-five percent (25%) of the duration of any display (e.g., within the first 5 minutes of a 20-minute display).

**3. Security.**

For Fireworks Display Events with public viewing areas (i.e., parks, promenades, publicly accessible piers, and other similar facilities) that occur within one-half mile of unprotected (i.e., unfenced) federally or state-listed nesting colonies or habitat areas, the Fireworks Organizer shall provide a minimum of two professional security guards to direct persons away from and to discourage trespass into sensitive nesting areas or habitat during such displays. In addition, the fireworks organizer shall provide security patrols of the water area to enforce the existing restrictions on access to unauthorized areas during such fireworks display events in the South Bay.

**4. Signage.**

For Fireworks Display Events with public viewing areas (i.e., parks, promenades, publicly accessible piers, and other similar facilities) that occur within one half-mile of nesting colonies or habitat areas for federally or state-listed species, the Fireworks Organizer, in cooperation with the District, shall post temporary signage along primary access points to sensitive nesting colonies and habitat areas to identify safe viewing locations, to educate visitors on locations of sensitive wildlife habitats, to prevent viewers from trespassing into sensitive areas and to encourage appropriate viewing behavior.

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**5. Education.**

Beginning not less than seven (7) days before Fireworks Display Events with public viewing areas (i.e., parks, promenades, publicly accessible piers, and other similar facilities) located within one-half mile of federally or state-listed nesting colonies or habitat areas, the Fireworks Organizer shall implement a public education program using daily announcements on social media, press releases, and information posted at parks, boat launch facilities, marinas, yacht clubs and other viewing locations, to educate potential viewers regarding appropriate viewing and boat docking areas, to discourage trespass into sensitive wildlife habitat, and to remind viewers of appropriate viewing behavior in and near sensitive nesting colonies and habitat areas (e.g., appropriate disposal of trash, prevention of illegal fireworks, and safe boating procedures).

**(f) BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES.**

Fireworks Display Events shall implement the following BMPs for Fireworks Display Event preparation, discharge and clean-up:

1. Fireworks Display Events on barges shall be set up at a loading facility in accordance with the requirements and under the supervision of the municipal fire department with jurisdiction over the event. Barges shall be inspected for leaks and other potential safety issues. Idling time for delivery trucks and loading equipment shall not exceed three (3) minutes and all such trucks and equipment shall be shut down when not in use.
2. Fireworks shall be brought to the barge and loaded in their U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)-approved shipping cartons. Fireworks shall be encased in paper to prevent spillage of loose compounds. All packaging material and debris, including fuses, wires, shipping cartons and other wrapping, shall be properly disposed of in trash receptacles as the Fireworks Display Event is set up. Unless prohibited by the municipal fire marshal with jurisdiction over the Fireworks Display Event, barges shall be equipped with a fire-retardant debris barrier that extends six feet (6') in height, with openings no larger than ¼ inch, around the perimeter of the Fireworks launch area to contain debris.
3. Wires from the electric match placed in the Fireworks fuse shall be secured to avoid strain (such as wrapped around nails that are on the racks, tied to the racks, or tied to the mortar) to prevent wires from being pulled out and falling into the water. Wire cables connected to computer firing equipment modules shall also be properly secured to ensure they remain on the barge during the Fireworks Display Event.
4. Once the Fireworks are prepared for launch, all trash and debris shall be removed from the barge while it is at the loading facility and prior to the barge being moved into position. No loose material shall be allowed on the barges during the Fireworks Display Event.
5. Following the Fireworks Display Event and upon expiration of any safety period required by the municipal fire marshal with jurisdiction over the Fireworks Display Event, the Fireworks Operator shall pick up all loose material on the barge, including all trash and debris resulting from the discharge of the Fireworks, to prevent it from being

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discharged into the water while the barge is underway.

6. Upon return to the loading facility, the Fireworks Operator shall clean the barge of all Fireworks related material and shall photograph and properly dispose of all Fireworks trash and debris. Unexploded Fireworks and related components shall be collected and disposed of by the Fireworks Operator in accordance with all applicable regulations. Fireworks Operators shall photograph the barge prior to and after cleaning.
7. Following the Fireworks Display Event and upon expiration of any safety period required by the municipal fire marshal with jurisdiction over the event, the Fireworks Organizer shall provide cleanup crews and boats to conduct sweeps of the fireworks detonation zone to gather any floating debris from spent Fireworks using hand held fishnets, pool skimmers, or other similar equipment.
8. The morning after the Fireworks Display Event, the Fireworks Organizer shall conduct another sweep of the fireworks detonation zone and quays, piers and docks adjacent to the fireworks detonation zone to remove Fireworks trash and debris. The Fireworks Organizer shall collect, bag, weigh and photograph all trash and debris collected prior to its disposal.
9. The morning after the Fireworks Display Event, the Fireworks Organizer shall perform a cleanup of the shoreline using crews of not fewer than five persons per barge on the shoreline adjacent to each barge location. Each crew member shall be equipped with trash bags and a trash grabber. The Fireworks Organizer shall collect, bag, weigh, and photograph all trash and debris collected prior to its disposal.
10. Within ten (10) business days after a Fireworks Display Event, the Fireworks Organizer shall provide the Executive Director with the photographs and written evidence of the weight of the Fireworks trash and debris collected pursuant to subdivisions (5) through (9) above. If the dry weight of the Fireworks trash and debris collected is less than fifty percent (50%) of the net weight of fireworks launched during the Fireworks Display Event, the Fireworks Organizer shall offset the remaining amount by providing a crew of not fewer than two (2) persons for each barge or other launch site used in the Fireworks Display Event to participate in the next scheduled "Operation Clean Sweep" or other District-sponsored clean-up event prior to the end of the calendar year to recover trash and debris from San Diego Bay and/or the Imperial Beach Oceanfront.
11. For all Fourth of July Fireworks Display Events and for Non- Fourth of July Fireworks Display Events which are advertised to the public, the Fireworks Organizer shall double the number of trash receptacles at major viewing areas prior to each fireworks display event; trashcans shall be emptied and parks and viewing areas shall be cleaned following the event.

**(g) EELGRASS AVOIDANCE AND MITIGATION.**

For Fireworks Display Events with launching sites located in shallow water with the potential for eelgrass to occur, fireworks barges shall be held in place by tugboats and shall not require temporary moorings. To the extent practicable, barges shall be located in unvegetated deep water channels outside of eelgrass beds. Pre-event and post-event eelgrass surveys shall be completed to identify the distribution of eelgrass to assist tug operators and to assess any impacts to eelgrass that may occur. Through a pre-event

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training, tug operators shall be made aware of shallow eelgrass and instructed not to use high thrust in the vicinity of eelgrass beds. If an unanticipated impact to eelgrass occurs, this impact shall be mitigated by replacing the eelgrass at a ratio determined by the California Eelgrass Mitigation Policy.

**(h) EVENT TRANSPORTATION AND PARKING MANAGEMENT PLANS.**

For all Fourth of July Fireworks Display Events and for Non-Fourth of July Fireworks Display Events which are advertised to the public, the Fireworks Organizer shall prepare and submit an event transportation and parking management plan (ETPMP) to the Executive Director for approval as part of the Application, which shall be designed to ensure safe and convenient access to public viewing areas while limiting conflicts between transportation modes and reducing impacts on surrounding transportation facilities to the maximum extent feasible. The ETPMP shall take into account anticipated attendance, existing transportation and parking facilities, and other concurrent public events in the surrounding areas, and shall include but is not limited to the following:

1. Transportation management strategies, including but not limited to, a public awareness program, traffic management and enforcement, incident management, and public transit and alternative modes of transportation management, which shall be implemented for the Fireworks Display Event; and
2. Parking management strategies, including but not limited to a public awareness program, coordination with parking vendors, off-site parking arrangements, designated areas for taxi and rideshare pick up/drop off, promotional programs with rideshare vendors, joint event ticketing programs with public transit agencies, and expanded shuttle operations.

**(i) COMPLIANCE WITH SAN DIEGO WATER BOARD GENERAL PERMIT.**

1. Prior to the Executive Director's issuance of a permit pursuant to this article, the Applicant shall demonstrate that it has applied for coverage and has been enrolled under the San Diego Water Board General Permit.
2. The Applicant shall comply with all applicable terms, conditions and Best Management Practices required by the San Diego Water Board General Permit, which shall be incorporated into and considered in the terms, conditions and Best Management Practices of any permit issued by the Executive Director pursuant to this article.
3. The Applicant shall submit to the District copies of all applications, plans, reports and other documentation required by the San Diego Water Board General Permit, including without limitation the Notice of Intent, Fireworks Best Management Practices Plan, Public Fireworks Display Log and the Public Display of Fireworks Post Event Report, within the time required for the submission of such reports to the San Diego Water Board.

**(j) COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER REQUIRED PERMITS:**

Prior to the Executive Director's issuance of a Permit pursuant to this article, the Applicant shall demonstrate that it has obtained and shall comply with all other permits and approvals required by federal, state and local laws and regulations including, without

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limitation, such permits and approvals as are required by the United States Coast Guard, California Coastal Act, the District Code, including Article 10 (Stormwater Management and Discharge Control), and the fire marshal of any city which has jurisdiction over all or any part of the activity allowed under said Permit.

**(k) COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS:**

The Applicant shall comply with any and all applicable rules and regulations promulgated by the District, including without limitation the District Code, the Chula Vista Bayfront Master Plan Settlement Agreement and Natural Resources Management Plan, and with the laws, rules and regulations of the United States of America and the State of California, and of any department or agency thereof, and with the applicable ordinances, rules and regulations of any city which has jurisdiction over all or any part of the activity allowed under said Permit. The Applicant's failure to comply with any applicable law, ordinance, rule or regulation shall be cause for immediate revocation of said permit and for the denial of applications for future Permits.