



To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Council
From: Deborah Juch
Director of Community Services
Date: July 9, 2019

Reference: 11/154/2019-191

RE: Quiet Fireworks and Alternative Displays

[REDACTED]

Thank you for your email, which we received on July 1, 2019. The City received a second email on the same topic expressing concern for domestic animals, a recurring issue in urban areas especially around Halloween. I read with interest the articles at the links you both provided, which outlined the reasons other communities are using either quiet fireworks displays or alternative light shows, to reduce the noise stress it can cause on animals.

At this time, the City does not stage any firework displays at any time of the year. A small number of civic groups organizing public celebrations in City spaces do include fireworks; these occur on Canada Day, once during Lacombe Days, and as a finale during the "Light Up the Night" event near New Year's Eve. The City does however regulate fireworks through its Fire Services Bylaw, essentially prohibiting the discharge of any fireworks in the City except under permit issued by the Fire Chief, who currently approves only those public displays previously mentioned. Consumer fireworks (household discharges) are prohibited everywhere in the City, resulting in significantly less stress on animals through the year. At this time, the City is not planning a review of the Fire Services Bylaw.

Thank you again for your information and for bringing this interesting trend to the City's attention; I trust that this response clarifies the municipality's position at this time.

Sincerely,

Deborah Juch, BFA
Director of Community Services

