

Bernie Bacon

From: Connie Roach [<mailto:connie.gleason@comcast.net>]

Sent: Friday, May 11, 2018 11:50 AM

To: Bernie Bacon <bbacon@cityofcamas.us>

Subject: fire works

Can't make Monday as I will be out of town. Oh, the passion on both sides will be displayed.

I am for allowing fireworks to be used in the city by citizens. I have young grandchildren, under age 11, and they prefer small fireworks at home with their dads lighting to sitting and watching the large show. I prefer sitting and watching, I am old.

It would be easier on all, people and dogs, if July 4, was the only day for fire works. It use to be that way. In trying to appease everyone with adding days we seem to be aggravating the negatives. I always have had dogs and the noise is hard on them. Days and days of exploding is difficult on animals.

Connie Roach

210 NE 22nd Ave

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Bernie Bacon

From: Bob Huckvale <rwhuck@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, May 11, 2018 3:46 PM
To: Bernie Bacon
Subject: Fireworks

I want to express my support for keeping the fireworks regulations as they are. It is key part of why I love living in Camas. I feel like much of the complaining is targeted at those who violate the laws by using fireworks at prohibited times, or using illegal fireworks. Those who are responsible and safe, including thoroughly cleaning up afterwards, should not be penalized for those who violate laws and don't use common sense. Hearing and seeing fireworks for me and my family is a key part of enjoying independence day. We routinely have friends and family come from Oregon and other parts of the state just to be able to enjoy the fireworks. Let's keep Camas fun, while also promoting and enforcing safety and compliance to laws.

Best regards,

Bob

Robert W. Huckvale
3529 NE Franklin Loop
Camas, WA 98607
rwhuck@comcast.net
Cell: 360-607-4110
Home: 360-834-6547

Bernie Bacon

From: Larry Larimer <ldjt1@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, May 11, 2018 8:35 PM
To: Bernie Bacon
Subject: Fireworks

I prefer to continue the sale and use of fireworks without any changes from last year.

Larry Larimer
3151 NW Valley Street
Camas

Sent from my iPhone

Bernie Bacon

From: Benjamin Jacobs <benjaminjacobs@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, May 12, 2018 7:35 PM
To: Bernie Bacon
Subject: Testimony for hearing re: fireworks in Camas

Please accept this written testimony as I am unable to attend the hearing in person. Thank you.

To: Whom It May Concern
From: Benjamin Jacobs, MD
Re: Fireworks in the City of Camas

Thank you for hosting a public hearing regarding fireworks in the City of Camas. Like many of your families, my family calls Camas home. We love many things about our town, including several of Camas' traditions that mark the holidays and seasons. **However, as a hand surgeon and a parent, I unequivocally recommend that Camas discontinue allowing fireworks to be used by its citizens.** At the hearing, you will hear from people on both sides of this debate. Many of the people against allowing the use of fireworks in our city will make reasonable and valid arguments: fireworks terrify children and pets, they cause a fire risk at the driest time of year in our heavily wooded area, they pollute... While these are all accurate and persuasive reasons to be concerned about fireworks use, my position on the subject is a little bit different. I am in the unique position to see the devastating and traumatic injuries that fireworks cause. My partners and I have treated firework injuries that have forever impacted the lives of our patients and their families. From this vantage point, here is what I know: fireworks, even non-explosive ones such as sparklers, are dangerous. Firework injuries, which are due to burns and blasts, can cause damage to bones and soft tissue that require extensive surgery and even amputation. A high percentage of these injuries occur in children. In firework injuries to people of all ages, the hand, fingers, head, and face are the most commonly injured areas. Explosive fireworks are inherently unpredictable and can cause injuries which involve loss of extremities and even vital organs. Even sparklers, which burn at more than 1000 degrees F, cause well over a thousand injuries a year to hands and fingers alone. Fireworks are among the easiest ways to turn a celebration into a tragedy. Let's leave them to the professionals and keep our town safer. Thank you.

Bernie Bacon

From: DogsMakeMeLaugh <dogsmakemelaugh@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, May 12, 2018 8:32 PM
To: Bernie Bacon
Subject: Fireworks in Camas - Public Input

Fireworks in Camas

My personal preference is for the City Council to eliminate them altogether. If the Council cannot see fit to do so, at least limit all fireworks to safe-sane, and only for 1 day, the 4th of July holiday itself. Fireworks between Christmas and New Year's? Get rid of that too, entirely.

Issues

1. Noise pollution. The noise each year makes me a prisoner in my own home. I cannot go outside during displays, and I am sensitive to the noise. My dogs cannot tolerate the noise any better than I can. Why should I have to pay money to sedate them, which doesn't really work. Although they don't react due to the drugs, they still hear the monstrous explosions and show fear in their eyes. They become forever fearful of loud noises. I cannot imagine what veterans go through, and why should they have to endure the insanity
2. Litter. Each year our neighborhood, Parker Estates, becomes a war-zone for all the days available to light-off fireworks, and it is the worst on the 4th. There is debris everywhere. Some neighbors claim they clean-up after themselves, but at best they only clean-up some of the debris in the streets. I happen to be routinely down-wind of a large contingent of neighbors that explode them, and over the 20+ years I have lived here, not once has anyone picked-up the debris from my yard, my driveway, or my roof (and there has been plenty). If I don't collect it, it persists for years as the chemicals (or plastic) do not allow the components to break down in the environment. Doesn't this constitute littering, a misdemeanor offense?
3. Air pollution. Air pollution is already a problem, is worse in the summer, and the major fireworks that are exploded each year contribute to the problem. There is all the pollution from shipping them here from a foreign country, as well as all the fuel expended by those who travel to buy them.
4. Water pollution occurs because of all the chemicals associated with their use, and many people leave them in the streets where they eventually make their way into the storm water system.
5. After legal hours. There are plenty of people that insist on exploding them well beyond the official hours. Even if they are a mile or two away, the power of these devices are heard for long distances. Further, there is no recourse. Even if one goes off nearby in the middle of the night, it is difficult if not impossible to determine the doer. Regardless, by then it's too late, as everyone is awake.
6. Fire danger. With the climate doing stranger things each year, I've noticed more trees dying and shrubs being stressed, and plants around my home and those of neighbors are becoming more susceptible. The chance of having a fire is only getting worse, and it doesn't make sense to continue the risk. Just look what happened in the gorge last year, in large part because people cannot be trusted to exercise good judgement.
7. A few years ago, the council was ready to limit fireworks to one day, that is until one member of the community, Ken Fisher, spoke at a public meeting. It was obvious the influence he had as the council, with the exception of Melissa Smith, changed their mind. Only his opinion mattered, and that was an insult to the then majority of the community.

Lighting fireworks does not make someone a patriot. Causing noise, air, and water pollution anything but patriotic and does not help our community.

Please, put an end to this madness and get rid of fireworks. Make Camas a peaceful town year-round. If people want to partake in such festivities, let them go to sanctioned displays such as at Fort Vancouver or Portland where they are conducted by professionals, and only for a short period of time on the actual holiday.

Cal Stone
3802 NW 27th Ave.
Camas

Bernie Bacon

From: gabe kern <gabekern32@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 13, 2018 9:43 AM
To: Bernie Bacon
Cc: Bryce.cloutier@gmail.com; Daniel Kern; Conner King; Chad Wiley; Jeremy Faulkner; Jake Southard; Chris Kern; Alex Jack Colby; Andrew Kern73; bryce.yama@gmail.com; Nancy Kern; number31kx@gmail.com; ryanjosephartman@gmail.com; ryan@almartool.com; Jennifer Colby; cnschoendorf@gmail.com; nolan.hunt22@gmail.com; Lindsey Hunt
Subject: Please Allow Fireworks on 4th of July in Camas

Bernie and City of Camas Representatives,

Thank you for serving our town and allowing Camas residents to share their views on fireworks allowed on the 4th of July. I have lived in Camas for my entire life, born and raised here. I now have the opportunity to raise my two children in camas (daughter 2 years old and son is 6 months old) along with our 3 dogs and 4 cats. Wife is an animal lover and also grew up in Camas, we met attending Camas high School. We want fireworks on the 4th of July in this community.

I want my kids to be able to enjoy this holiday like I was able to through my child hood. I believe your council took appropriate action when you addressed this a few years ago and we appreciate the time and detail your team went through in making this tough decision. Below are views and experiences from young Camas home owners and business owners who are the future leaders and role models for our citizens. All emails cc'd here are Camas highschool graduates, born and raised here in Camas and grew up with me and my wife and chose to stay in Camas to raise their families and build their lives here. They share similar views below and support allowing fireworks on 4th of July.

Veterans:

My Father Daniel Kern cc'd here served our country for 40 years in the US Army and retired as a full bird colonel after two tours in Afghanistan. He suffers from PTSD and lives with it every day. He has helped hundreds of veterans cope with PTSD with his personal experience and extensive leadership training from our nation's military. Our family views this holiday as a way to say thank you to my father and his service to our country and reflect on the men and women who have sacrificed so much for Independence and freedom we have here in Camas. My Father looks forward to our neighborhood barbeques where his grandchildren and other kids in the neighborhood come together and the parents have an opportunity to continue to build on the home town feel Camas is known for. This place is different, let's keep it this way. Veterans who are camas residents want to keep our right to have fireworks in camas.

Parents with Young Children:

We have 2 young children (2 year old and 6 month old) and many of the Camas residents cc'd in here have young children. They look forward to this one special holiday each year where the kids come together and the parents put together responsible fireworks shows for their families. With today's technology its fairly easy to create sounds during sleep to cover the sound of fireworks going off one day out of the year, we have never had a problem with our children sleeping on this holiday. Fans, sleep sounds, many apps offer this now with the developments in technology are some approaches my wife and I use and share with our friends. Young parents in camas want to keep our right to fireworks on fourth of July.

Residents with Pets:

We have 3 dogs (Chihuahua and 2 Saint Bernards) and 4 cats. Wife is a huge animal lover and saved all of these animals from abuse and abandonment cases. Many cc'd here not only have children but also pets as well. The 4th of July has always been a time to keep them in doors and utilize fans or sleep sounds to ease them at night

with routine check ins. Never had a material issue with our farm of pets over the past 20 years. All cc'd here share a similar view. Pet owners who have lived their entire lives in Camas want to keep our right to have fireworks in Camas.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and again we camas residents greatly appreciate the time your team has taken to analyze this issue, do your homework and make the best decision possible for our community. Also, Happy Mother's Day to all the Camas mom's that continue to develop and shape our communities future, we appreciate you in this community!

Best,

Gabriel Kern
Lacamas View Neighborhood on Prune Hill
Camas, WA

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

Bernie Bacon

From: Walker, Candi <Candi.Walker@ctt.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 13, 2018 4:36 PM
To: Bernie Bacon
Subject: Fireworks in Camas

I'm against having fireworks for more than on the 4th. It had gotten so out of hand with no one following the time restrictions and days.

Kind Regards,

Candi Walker, V.P
Assistant County Manager
Chicago Title & Fidelity National Title
(360)773-8500
Sent from iPhone, please excuse any misspelled words

"Do things better than they have ever been done before." - Pete Carroll

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Bernie Bacon

From: wes finn <wesfinnfam@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 13, 2018 4:54 PM
To: Bernie Bacon
Subject: Fireworks, please ban them for use by private citizens!!!!

Fireworks have no business being allowed by private citizens if they are in the city and surrounded by folks who do not want or like them being set off. We dread it, every time they are allowed to be blown up everywhere. My husband is a veteran, we have a dog and cat who are extremely upset by them and most of us just do NOT WANT the NOISE! The folks who are setting them off just don't care if they are upsetting anybody else in the neighborhood. The year before last the people across the street from where we live, threw a big party with huge speakers which were aimed in our direction and the music was so loud our windows were rattling and we couldn't even hear our tv or music, plus setting off big booming fireworks until after midnight!!! This behavior should be stopped. Most of the time it seems these people are sitting around getting drunk and getting louder and louder.

If they want to watch fireworks they should go down to Fort Vancouver!

Thanks for your time

Sandra Finn

Bernie Bacon

From: Aunna Elm <aunnaelm@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 13, 2018 5:23 PM
To: Bernie Bacon
Subject: Ban above-ground fireworks in Camas

Dear Deputy City Clerk Bacon,

I can't attend the meeting tomorrow night but please take my comment here. And by the way, I did not see a notice of this meeting in a prominent place in the Camas Post-Record - I certainly hope enough residents know about the hearing tomorrow night, or their invitation to submit emails, that it isn't just people in favor of fireworks that attend!

The City of Camas Mayor and Council should join Washougal and Vancouver in banning above ground fireworks, allowing only "safe and sane". It is CRITICAL that they take decisive action, particularly in light of what our surrounding municipal neighbors have done. Camas is literally sandwiched in between two communities that have banned fireworks - the explosive, above-ground kind - and yet to date our Camas leadership has failed to act??

There are many reasons to object to the use of fireworks, including the insanely loud, intrusive noise, pollution in the air, and garbage on the ground. But my primary concern is public safety. I find it shocking that our Mayor and Council haven't banned fireworks years ago considering increasing fire risks, particularly the July fireworks - with summers in the PNW that are increasingly hot and dry. There is NO reason to presume that the same devastating fires that affected the Columbia River Gorge (not that far from us - started by a firework!), and the Napa, California area last summer, couldn't happen in Camas. And yet here Mayor and Council have continued to endorse the equivalent of people intentionally spraying literally zillions of burning embers all across our beautiful, green city.

In 2016, my neighbor two doors over found a smoldering fire on his property after fireworks exploded for hours behind and in front of our homes over July 4th. And last year - 2017, my next door neighbor's tree ignited hours after everyone had gone to bed. Had it not been for a neighbor noticing the tree on fire when she got up to check on her kids, who knows what would have happened.

We have kids, we have pets, we have homes we love, and greenspaces and trees galore in this beautiful community. And it breaks my brain that Mayor and Council would consider anything less than allowing ONLY "safe and sane" fireworks, particularly given that - as I said - our municipal neighbors - Vancouver and Washougal - on both sides have banned above ground. Obviously the appeal for people living outside of Camas to come here because, "Hey! Fireworks are legal in Camas!", is going to be strong.

I implore Mayor and Council to act now. I implored them to act last year while the Gorge burned not far from Camas and we couldn't breath, I84 was shut down for weeks, all of which hurt our region in so many ways.

Finally, I will point out that apparently our Fire Department is underfunded on top of everything else. Seriously?!?

Act now - ban above ground fireworks, and DO NOT cave to the pressure of people who want to be able to blow stuff up without regard for their neighbors and the safety and well being of our community. Sure, there will be violators but that is no excuse for not doing the right thing. We support our city-sanctioned fireworks - they are fantastic and safer because they are controlled, and then they are *over*, not keeping everyone awake all night.

Sincerely,
Aunna Elm

3520 NW 24th Ave., Camas

Bernie Bacon

From: Joe Walker <walker.joe@frontier.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 13, 2018 6:22 PM
To: Bernie Bacon
Subject: Against fireworks in Camas

I was given this email address to give my opinion about fireworks in Camas. I don't want to write a book here so I will just tell you that I am 100 percent against fireworks in Camas. I am sick and tired of literally being run out of my own home every year!

Thanks for your time,
Joe Walker
4013 NW 14th ave

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

Bernie Bacon

From: Alan Ruger <alanruger@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 13, 2018 8:23 PM
To: Bernie Bacon
Subject: Fireworks

Mr. Bernie Bacon
Deputy City Clerk, City of Camas, Wa

Dear Mr. Bacon and the City of Camas;

We strongly appose the use of fireworks in the City of Camas by the public. I would only support hand-held items such as sparklers.

The 4th of July "celebration" has become a time for incivility. Our neighborhood is surrounded by a green-space that is highly susceptible to fire. The hillside down to Lake Road would then be landslide prone.

Each year my wife and I spend hours trying to cleanup our property and street, rain gutters get clogged, debris blows around and reappears for months. Much of this ends up in ground water runoff and streams.

I wear ear plugs, but the noise is still very distressful. We used to leave town around the 4th, but now we try to water down the green-space.

There is a long list of negatives for the public use of fireworks. By allowing fireworks, the City is imposing costs on everyone else. Most of us grew-up with handheld sparklers and a city sponsored fireworks display in a park. That is a community celebration, that is civility.

The current fireworks laws are not enforceable and short of a ban on fireworks will be an enforcement nightmare for the police and firefighters. The City of Camas needs to do their job and ban fireworks. Don't attempt to pass the job on to the police and firefighters.

Sincerely,

Alan and Debra Ruger
905 NW 44th Ave.
Camas, Wa 98607

Bernie Bacon

From: Ken O'Day <kenoday@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 13, 2018 9:03 PM
To: Bernie Bacon
Subject: Fireworks

Dear Mayor and Council,

I strongly urge the City of Camas to ban fireworks. Other local jurisdictions have already made this move, but the City of Camas has been slow to deal with the increasing problem posed by this activity. The types of fireworks sold in the area and used by Camas residents are not the fireworks that we had when I was a kid (firecrackers, bottle rockets, and sparklers). They are much larger, louder, and more dangerous. The noise is overwhelming and unfortunately people ignore the time restrictions and shoot them off well beyond the curfew period keeping us awake. The air and ground pollution is obnoxious and the people who shoot them off often neglect to clean up after themselves. The risk of personal injury is high - I have witnessed children almost hit by malfunctioning fireworks. And perhaps most importantly the risk of fire is significant. The recent fire in the Gorge makes it obvious that the risk of a firework caused fire destroying green space and/or homes in Camas is a real possibility. In fact, twice in recent years there have been smoldering mulch fires in neighbor's yards that if not noticed and put out could have burned homes down.

The people who want the fireworks are not acting responsibly and are not equipped to handle what are clearly commercial grade fireworks. If they want to see fireworks the appropriate venue is a City or County sponsored event.

Please do the right thing and ban fireworks like all the other local jurisdictions. Doing so will actually create more community as people focus on spending time with families, neighbors, and friends instead of shooting off explosives.

Sincerely,
Ken O'Day
3520 NW 24th Circle
Camas, WA

Bernie Bacon

From: Kristi Hickey <kristihickey27@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 6:20 AM
To: Bernie Bacon
Subject: Fireworks in Camas

I planned to attend tonight's meeting, however am now unable to due to commitments at work.

I am a very easy-going person who considers all sides of issues, however I have grown to be very passionate about this topic and find it more and more difficult to understand the rationale behind allowing public fireworks.

There are many things in life that are "fun," yet there are laws that limit or restrict them due to concerns of safety. This should be one of them. Here are a few of my experiences:

2006: My 10 year old son was hit with a firework, which burned the top of his head. This was during a neighborhood gathering. My son was sitting in a lawn chair simply watching the firework display.

2008: My 13 year old daughter was burned in the shoulder with a firework. Her friend was hit with the same firework, which burned a hole in her shirt and left a mark on her. This was during a 4th of July celebration with a few other families.

Approximately 2012: I was hit with a firework that flew up into the air, exploded, and ejected a parachute-type object. Again, it was during a 4th of July party with friends. I was standing always away from our firework display talking with some friends when the object hit me hard and burned a bloody circle in my cheek. Luckily, it didn't leave the scar I thought it would.

As a young child, my dog jumped through our front, glass screen door to try to escape the noise, injuring himself and costing my family expensive vet bills.

Presently, I spend the 4th (after dealing with the sporadic noises the week of) sedating my own dog and locking ourselves downstairs with the TV blasted to drown the sound in order to give him some relief. This is a rescue dog who was most likely formerly abused dog. It's heartbreaking to watch him uncontrollably shake and try to hide for hours - even medicated. I can only imagine what other people's pets (and the surrounding wild animals) deal with. My daughter shared a comment to this that someone wrote on our Nextdoor app- he basically said that if people don't like how animals react then maybe we shouldn't have pets. Hmmm... we shouldn't give these pets homes simply because you get a thrill of lighting fireworks one day a year? I can only imagine what type of person wrote that.

In 2014 we moved into our new home. We went up the hill to be with our parents on the 4th and when we came home, our bark dust was lit up with a smoldering fire. My son and 2 of his friends were inside- they had no idea what was happening outside.

On a much lower scale, I feel this is the place to mention the disrespect I feel when I light NOT ONE single firework, yet spend 2+ hours the next morning cleaning in front of my home (not to mention finding the debris all around my home for months. I can't imagine "dumping" my garbage on someone else's property would be okay? But it happens every year. Yes, many people have talked about "cleaning up the next day," but they're referring to their own home. What about the people whose homes you littered with your firework

debris? When I stepped outside in July 5th last year and shook my head because I knew how I'd be spending my morning, I looked around and, you're right, everyone else's property looked great. Mine, on the other hand, was untouched and a mess. Thankfully, my fantastic next door neighbor ended up helping me.

I say all this with passion for prohibiting fireworks in Camas, but then one thing that trumps even those things are what our Veterans must deal with every year. No, (I say this to those people who constantly defend this) not ALL of our Veterans, but there are many who suffer each year when the 4th rolls around. This is where it becomes "black and white" to me- we are celebrating our country's independence by imposing this fear on the very people who defended us? Nope- that's just it- How many of you that want to continue allowing public fireworks in Camas even THINK about the reason your lighting them? My guess is that you don't. Instead it's just the thrill for you. It's your fun at the cost of everything I've said and more. I find that hard to understand. If you want to celebrate, there's many events around that you can attend. I'm all about celebrations and love the daytime atmosphere of the 4th with barbecues and friends/family gatherings, but I can't imagine anyone saying it's okay for you to do things that are unsafe and "damaging" to humans and pets. Littering by itself is against the law?

PLEASE consider prohibiting fireworks in Camas.

Thank you for listening,

Kristi

Sent from my iPhone

Bernie Bacon

From: Gina Little <surfergin@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 7:57 AM
To: Bernie Bacon
Subject: Fireworks in the City of Camas

Dear Deputy City Clerk Bernie Bacon,

I think its extremely sad that this situation is decided on those that can not follow the rules with the fireworks . The City of Camas looks so magical when it comes to life with the fireworks. Neighbors ; friends and family mostly share in this experience and it allows some bonding to happen as well. There is always going to be a pet or person who is afraid of the noise but if there was a way to restrict the use around those special ones so that the rest of us who love to see it still can. Plus here on 1st ave people do clean up after themselves so that is not an issue here. I know it would take some extra effort but I hope we can save the fireworks!!

Thanks you for letting me share my view

Gina Little

928 e. 1st ave

Camas, Wa

Bernie Bacon

From: Peter Capell
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 10:16 AM
To: Bernie Bacon
Subject: FW: Fireworks

-----Original Message-----

From: David Marks [mailto:loving76@icloud.com]
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 9:28 AM
To: City Council Members (GRP) <CityCouncilGRP@cityofcamas.us>
Subject: Fireworks

Please keep the fire works in Camas, it's a big family and friends event in Camas and brings are communities together.

David Marks
3634 NW Norwood St

Sent from my iPhone

Bernie Bacon

From: Peter Capell
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 10:16 AM
To: Bernie Bacon
Subject: FW: Fireworks Meeting Tonight

From: Brian Owens [mailto:brian-owens@comcast.net]
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 9:38 AM
To: City Council Members (GRP) <CityCouncilGRP@cityofcamas.us>
Subject: Fireworks Meeting Tonight

I am unable to attend the meeting tonight but I would like to go on record against any changes to the current fireworks laws. Fireworks are an important part of our celebrations and I do not want to see any changes. Thank you.

Brian Owens
1552 NW 37th Ave
Camas, Wa. 98607.

Brian Owens
Sales Director
Cell: 503-260-8014
brian.owens@ipaper.com

Bernie Bacon

From: Peter Capell
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 10:16 AM
To: Bernie Bacon
Subject: FW: I want FireWorks!

-----Original Message-----

From: Jason Pond [mailto:jasonpondemail@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 9:44 AM
To: City Council Members (GRP) <CityCouncilGRP@cityofcamas.us>
Subject: I want FireWorks!

My name is Jason Pond. I am the president of Greenberry Industrial

I live at 1520 NE 249TH, Camas, Washington 98607

I love being able to do fireworks at my home.

Please do not change things

My cell is 360-949-3494

Sincerely

Jason

Sent from my iPhone

Bernie Bacon

From: Peter Capell
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 10:15 AM
To: Bernie Bacon
Subject: FW: Fireworks

From: Kenneth Rich [mailto:richresources1@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 9:58 AM
To: City Council Members (GRP) <CityCouncilGRP@cityofcamas.us>
Subject: Fireworks

We really enjoy our fireworks and would hate the city Council banning these. Please vote to keeping Camas special.

Kenneth Rich
3136 nw valley st
3602107619

Thanks,
Kenneth

Sent from my iPhone

Bernie Bacon

From: Peter Capell
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 10:14 AM
To: Bernie Bacon
Subject: FW: City of Camas Proposed Fireworks Ban

From: Eric Wilsey [mailto:ewlegal@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 10:06 AM
To: City Council Members (GRP) <CityCouncilGRP@cityofcamas.us>
Subject: RE: City of Camas Proposed Fireworks Ban

To Whom It May Concern,

I was informed today that a proposal is set forth for the banning of fireworks in the City of Camas. My name is Eric Wilsey and I live in the Summit Oaks Community at 3549 NW Norwood St in Camas, WA. I do not support such a ban and hope that this email is received with many other emails from additional community members that share my opinion.

The responsible use of fireworks in our community during the 4th of July celebration is a special time of the year that brings our neighborhood and community together. The use of fireworks on this special day creates an equal atmosphere of fun and enjoyment for all all ages. Households are able to watch and share the visual fun they provide and the sale of such products generate funds for charitable causes that further support our community members and economy.

I feel it would be a terrible mistake to impose such a ban in our community and would create a greater negative effect than any positives that are being sought after.

Respectfully,

Eric R. Wilsey.

Bernie Bacon

From: krista stevenson <stevensonracing@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 10:17 AM
To: City Council Members (GRP)
Subject: Fireworks

Dear City Council,

I am writing as a family that has resided in the City of Camas for the past 10 years. I am sending this email to let you know that our family does not support any changes to the current laws and the fireworks are important to us! Please do not change or take away our ability to have fireworks in the community.

Thank You,

Roger and Krista Stevenson
1726 NW 37th Ave
Camas, Wa 98607

Bernie Bacon

From: Jeff Immel <jimmel7@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 10:22 AM
To: Bernie Bacon
Subject: Don't take away our fireworks - Let freedom still ring in Camas

Dear City Council,

Please don't take away our ability to celebrate the Fourth of July in Camas with fireworks.

My name is Jeff Immel and I live at 3513 NE Garfield Street in the Waterleaf subdivision.

The Fourth of July is one of the highlights of the year for our 67-home community. We have a community bike parade where all the kids decorate their bikes and follow one of our neighbor's classic cars. Neighbors step-up tables and chairs in their driveways and during a walk about the neighborhood you'll be offered to stop by for a hot dog and a soda more times than you could possibly eat or drink. And, all of this culminates with various personal fireworks shows throughout the neighborhood starting at dusk.

I fear that if you take away the fireworks, it will diminish the highlight of our Fourth of July celebrations. There will be less neighbors that stay in town to host a gathering for their neighbors and we'll miss a great opportunity to build community pride and comradery. There's more community interaction in our subdivision on the Fourth of July than any other day of the year!

Fireworks are part of the tradition of celebrating the Fourth of July in Camas. It's a tradition worth saving.

I urge the City Council to reject any changes to our current fireworks regulations.

Thank you for your time and for serving our great city of Camas.

Sincerely,

Jeff Immel
3513 NE Garfield Street
jimmel7@hotmail.com

Bernie Bacon

From: Chantell Wilsey <chantellalia@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 10:26 AM
To: City Council Members (GRP)
Subject: Ban on Fireworks

To Whom It May Concern,

I was informed today that a proposal is set forth for the banning of fireworks in the City of Camas. My name is Chantell Wilsey and I live in the Summit Oaks Community on NW Norwood St in Camas, WA. I do not support such a ban and hope that this email is received with many other emails from additional community members that share my opinion.

We are very responsible when using fireworks in our community during the 4th of July celebration and it is a special time of the year that brings our neighborhood together. We really enjoy this time of year and neighbors who are unable to get out or away from their homes are able to watch the fireworks and feel like they are part of the community still.

I feel it would be a terrible mistake to impose such a ban in our community and would create a greater negative effect than any positives that are being sought after.

Thank you for considering what the ban may do to our city.

Chantell Wilsey

Bernie Bacon

From: Jonathan <jnatiuk@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 11:02 AM
To: Bernie Bacon
Subject: Fireworks in Camas

Hello,

Thank you for letting the community discuss this. I appreciate the way in which this is all being handled.

I feel very strongly on continuing to allow fireworks to be used in the city of Camas. I also feel strongly that there needs to be clear laws surrounding their usage and strict penalties for those that violate the laws (also understanding it's difficult to catch and enforce).

There are 363 other days on which fireworks can't be used. So for the people that wish to not participate, they only must be concerned about 2 days of the entire year. It seems to me that this is a fair balance that has existed for decades. Why should we change it now?

To me, fireworks on the 4th of July is part of growing up as an American. I want my two children to share that experience right here, in their hometown of Camas.

Thank you,
Jonathan Natiuk
1427 NE 5th Ave.
360.513.7647

Bernie Bacon

From: Will McKay <will.mckay84@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 11:25 AM
To: City Council Members (GRP)
Subject: Fireworks

To whom it may concern,

My name is Will McKay and I live on 4529 nw Valley st camas wa. I know there is a meeting tonight about changing fireworks rules and ordinances. I will be coaching a little league game so I will be unable to attend. I do however want to share my opinion. I don't think the vocal minority should represent us as a Camas community. The current laws and ordinances are fine. Having the ability to gather as a neighborhood and a community to set fireworks off is a great experience for families. I know the people who want these laws changed will tell you to go down to ft Vancouver or one of the other shows to watch them. Having younger kids that is a process that's not really enjoyable for a family. If I so chose to gather some friends and have their kids off to light some fountains in the street is a better family and community experience.

I don't always buy fireworks but having the ability to continue the past time we have all done as kids is something I think we should still have the option to do.

If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to me. Thank you

Sent from my iPhone

Bernie Bacon

From: Darcy Shirley <darcy286@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 11:27 AM
To: Bernie Bacon
Subject: Fireworks meeting

Good morning!

I am working this evening and will be unable to attend the meeting, but would like to provide my input. The following was also posted on an online message board (Nextdoor.com):

If you like fireworks, fine, but the idea that they are a 'right' is a bit of a stretch. Your right to celebrate the holiday as you want to ends when it becomes a safety issue and a nuisance for your neighbors / community. My own distaste for fireworks is mainly with the noise, though we have had a couple occasions where neighbors have almost caused fires on our home because they were setting them off without regard to the wind conditions. My own pets don't seem to be too bothered, though I've known enough that are to know that it is a real problem. I also have empathy for the humans with sleep disorders (like me) or other issues with PTSD and so forth. Also, believe it or not, it is possible to celebrate the Fourth without blowing things up in the street. [It doesn't make you more patriotic, it just means you like blowing things up.] That being said... I don't like fireworks, but I can live with them for a few hours on a couple days of the year. What I can not abide is when they go late into the night or go for days on end while everyone uses up their stashes. It seems reasonable to limit them in some way time-wise, and to specific days (e.g., 7/4 and 1/1). If they are banned entirely, I wouldn't be mad, though; anyone who had a problem with that could take it up with the folks who ruined it for the rest of you by being inconsiderate and irresponsible.

Please let me know if you need further info.

Thank you!

-- Darcy Shirley
Prune Hill, Camas

Bernie Bacon

From: Jina Stainbrook <j.stainbrook@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 11:34 AM
To: City Council Members (GRP)
Subject: Fireworks

Hello,

We are writing to ask that no changes be made to the existing fireworks rules in the city of Camas.

Thank you,
Duane and Jina Stainbrook
3603 NW OREGON COURT
360-210-4313
Sent from my iPhone

Bernie Bacon

From: Molly Fields <mollylvnv@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 11:37 AM
To: City Council Members (GRP)
Subject: Firework Ban

Camas City Council,

I have never written a letter or email to the city until now. This fireworks debacle that has been festering for the 18 years that my family has lived in Camas has got to end. Our neighborhood has turned in to a war zone with each passing year. We have gone to other parts of the state during this time to get away from the madness but I worry that I will come home to a burned up yard / house. It is only about 2 in 5 neighbors that are causing the problem but those that do have a total disregard to the rights of us that do not believe that concussion explosions, fire raining down on our homes and gardens, danger from burning landscape, frightened pets and air that is filled with toxic fumes is ok as long as they can continue to "celebrate" the Fourth of July holiday. Each year I have to get up on my house with my blower to remove the garbage from my roof and gutters from my thoughtless neighbors. I then have to clean the street as they refuse and say its the city's responsibility. There was almost a fight last year after a group of us tried to talk to them. We were threatened with physical violence from the group that was mostly from Oregon and Vancouver, which banned this lunacy last year. I'm afraid that it is going to be worse this year as our city is becoming a magnet for this type of behavior. We tried to contact our police but they were too busy to respond. As for the "sports boosters" that collect all this money for their causes, do what the other 95% of the US does and find another source of revenue that doesn't cause so much pain and suffering on decent people. I have a right to live in peace and it is your responsibility to ensure my rights. During this weeks time period, Camas goes from a wonderful, family orientated community to miserable place to live. If they must have their destructive fix, go to the Vancouver fireworks show at the fort. Something has got to be done or we will look for someplace else to live. Ban all explosive, airborne fireworks and fountains and only limit sparklers to July 4th on users property.

Sincerely,

Gary and Heidi Fields

2814 NW Leadbetter Parkway

Camas, WA 98607

Bernie Bacon

From: Darwin Rusu <darwin@bridgeagripartners.com>
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 11:53 AM
To: City Council Members (GRP)
Subject: Fireworks

Hello,

I do not support any changes to the current fireworks laws. Fireworks are an important tradition in my family.

Darwin Rusu
29705 NE 64th way
Camas, Wa 98607

--

Darwin Rusu | Bridge Agri Partners Inc | Mobile 503.724.8116

Bernie Bacon

From: Peter Capell
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 12:47 PM
To: Bernie Bacon
Subject: FW: 4th of July Fireworks

-----Original Message-----

From: Robin Parmer [mailto:parmer4family@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 12:37 PM
To: City Council Members (GRP) <CityCouncilGRP@cityofcamas.us>
Subject: 4th of July Fireworks

Camas City Council,

Fireworks have always been a fun tradition to celebrate our great nation. I do not support any changes to the current laws.

Robin & Jake Parmer
2451 NW Lorenz St
Camas, WA 98607

Sent from my iPhone

Bernie Bacon

From: Peter Capell
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 12:47 PM
To: Bernie Bacon
Subject: FW: fireworks

From: Catherine Bush [mailto:cathnw2@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 12:43 PM
To: City Council Members (GRP) <CityCouncilGRP@cityofcamas.us>
Subject: fireworks

We enjoy our firework laws the way they are written now. Please do not make any changes.

Catherine Bush
14 year resident

Bernie Bacon

From: Mindy Stone-Szabo <Mindy.Stone-Szabo@papamurphys.com>
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 1:05 PM
To: Bernie Bacon
Subject: Fireworks in Camas

Mr. Bacon,

First, thank you for opening this up for discussion among Camas residents. I appreciate the opportunity to express my and my family's opinion on this topic. I will start by saying that **we strongly oppose the way fireworks are handled in Camas.**

We have two teenage kids and their grandparents (who are in their late 70's) live across the street from us at the top of Prune Hill. When we moved here a few years ago, we thought it was odd that people warned us about the 4th of July. They referred to Prune Hill as Baghdad. They said we'd feel like we were in the line of fire and to just be ready for it. Of course we thought they were exaggerating – that seemed a bit extreme - but they were dead-on right. For hours on end, fireworks zip past our windows, skimming our trees and even the side of our house. We now know to expect thunderous booms and high pitched whistles continuing non-stop from at least 8pm to 2 am, all while many of us have get up early the next morning for work.

For us though, it's about more than waking up tired the next morning.

1. It's about Camas residents who are my parents' age and older, and may or may not have family who can be with them on the 4th. My parents have already told us that they don't want to ever have to endure the 4th here again and will pay the money to go somewhere else to spend the night and will *still* be nervous all night that their house doesn't catch on fire. That's not okay.
2. It's about Camas families who have children with special needs, newborns and small children. Fireworks will often cause severe anxiety for kids with sensory issues, and it can create undue stress for parents trying their best to get their little ones to sleep but can't. When Prune Hill Baghdad erupts, these parents don't have a choice but to turn on some loud music, turn up the TV, wear headphones, hide in a closet, or leave their home. They shouldn't have to choose any of these.
3. It's about our Camas military vets who suffer from PTSD. These loud, ongoing fireworks at all hours can be extremely common triggers for combat veterans suffering from PTSD. I think people forget this as they are shooting off the thousands of dollars they spent trying to one-up their neighbor.
4. It's about our pets. They are terrified and in obvious distress. I know this is a common complaint but it's common because it's real and it affects so many of us and our family members. We shouldn't have to heavily sedate our animals when we are in our own homes.

5. Lastly, it's about the clear and imminent dangers fireworks bring. Between injuries and fires, why would we want to keep putting ourselves at risk? Anyone can Google statistics on the dangers of fireworks and see just how devastating it is. It's not a joke, so why we would wait for something more horrible than what happened in the Gorge last year for us to make a change in policy here in Camas?

As you can probably tell, we don't oppose this for the sake of being cranky, Debbie-downers. We don't want to spoil people's 4th of July fun. We completely support having fun and we love fireworks. But when we want to see and hear them, we'll go one of the dozen scheduled municipal shows around the Portland/Vancouver area. It's truly that simple.

Rather than looking forward to the 4th of July, we now dread it. We have never, ever experienced anything like the Baghdad fireworks mayhem we have here in Camas, and we do hope policy changes to make the overall experience a better one for everyone. If a compromise needs to be made, please consider at least a reasonable start and end time when people can shoot off their personal fireworks, that is well-regulated, so residents who want/need to leave their homes will know they can come back that same night and not have to deal with the noise and danger.

When we know better, we need to do better. And we know better. Thank you for your time.

Mindy Stone-Szabo | Director | Learning & Development
Papa Murphy's Intl. | C 303.921.1852 | d 360.449.4067

"Most Likely to Recommend", awarded by Technomic 2015 Consumer's Choice Awards

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Bernie Bacon

From: sturbelle@aol.com
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 1:41 PM
To: City Council Members (GRP)
Subject: Fireworks discussion for Camas

Hello Camas council group,

As a resident of Camas, I would like to give input for tonight's discussion and consideration of fireworks complete ban, reduction of days for selling and/or use, etc. I am not only a resident of Camas, but also a professional firefighter for the past 25 years ,mostly with City of Vancouver.

I have not only witnessed and enjoyed some of the use of fireworks, but also have seen some injuries and unfortunate damage that it has done to properties over the years.

There's no argument that the type of fireworks currently allowed within parts of Clark county can have some devastating effect if improperly handled. And yes, over the past 25 years I have seen a few house fires from it, lots of landscaping destroyed, a few injuries and a bit of mess in many neighborhoods. I can't say from what I've seen that the numbers are huge as far as house fires or injuries goes. I've seen years where things are pretty mild, low call volumes from fireworks and some years high. The weather plays a factor in this too. No doubt with the type of fireworks allowed in Camas, and other parts of Clark county can have some bad outcomes. There's always a small percentage every year that can present a small danger. More so, I do believe there is a vast amount of people that are prudent and safe with fireworks. I am sympathetic that it is a concern for our pets(I know, I have a dog), people with PTSD, and the mess it leaves behind...besides the risk and concerns mentioned above.

I do enjoy a little bit of fireworks, but I don't necessarily enjoy it for hours...or days. I think there is a compromise here, and that use of current fireworks sold (within Camas) should only be allowed on the December 31st and July 4th. The sales could be allowed for additional days. There are many other factors to consider by reducing use days or complete elimination, like less OT for staffing the fire dept on these days that fireworks are allowed. Camas already has an understaffed dept., which I'm sure you are very aware of, and would hope this issue becomes a priority.

Thank you for your service and please feel free to contact me for additional info.

Dave Sturbelle
2220 NW 45 ave
Camas, WA 98607
360-834-5204

Bernie Bacon

From: Charlie <Charlie@yourpartycenter.com>
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 1:44 PM
To: City Council Members (GRP)
Subject: Fireworks

I would like to see the regulations stay the same. I don't think there is any good reason for the change.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Bernie Bacon

From: Don Gaston <dmgaston@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 2:01 PM
To: Melissa Smith; Deanna Rusch; Bonnie Carter; Steve Hogan; Greg Anderson; Shannon Turk; Don Chaney; Bernie Bacon
Subject: Keep Fireworks Legal in Camas

City Council:

My name is Don Gaston and I am a decade plus resident, property owner and taxpayer of Camas.

Thank you for your service to the town. And thank you for the opportunity to speak in support of the strong majority of Camas residents that very much want to keep enjoying fireworks with their families - just as the City already allows under its current code.

- It's somewhat confusing to me why this subject has come up again – the City Council reviewed this at length with public comments and a public hearing in September of 2015
 - To my knowledge, **nothing has changed**
 - It's almost like what happens when I tell my 9-year-old son "no" – he runs to mom hoping to get a "yes" by asking multiple times before news of my decline travels too far!
- One of the great attractions when we moved to Camas in early 2007 was its small town feel and sensibilities coupled with its strong commitment to education and growth looking forward
- The City Council has done a good job of moving Camas forward and positioning it for the future
 - And done so by NOT making decisions that "everyone else" would or has
- Camas has often chosen its "own path" – and this fireworks issue should be no different
 - Camas truly is unique and special
 - There's no reason Camas must be like everyone else in the area
 - Frankly – that's not the Papermaker way
- I know a number of online comments have been directed at concerns about the weather and heightened fire risks.
 - The City has already given authority to the Fire Marshal to stop the use of fireworks when weather conditions make it necessary
 - We already have trusted professional public safety officials making that decision
 - Please don't let a small minority mob drown out common sense
- Today we debate fireworks. What's next? Dogs outlawed because they bark after 8pm? Kids not allowed outside after 7pm because they're too loud when they're having fun? Getting rid of certain books? Only allowing certain this? Or certain that?
- Vocal minorities morph into tyrannies – let's just avoid that slippery slope altogether.

Last but certainly not least - some of my favorite Camas memories thus far have been spent with my kids watching fireworks in Deer Creek with family, friends and neighbors. These are the types of memories that will last a lifetime. At a time when so many in our nation focus on things that tear their communities apart, I urge the City Council to focus on not taking away something that helps bring families and the community of Camas closer together.

Please keep fireworks legal in Camas – please let Camas be Camas. Thank you.

Respectfully,

Bernie Bacon

From: Mary Sauer <mary@sauerdevgroup.com>
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 2:13 PM
To: City Council Members (GRP)
Subject: Comment re Fireworks

Dear Council Members,

I understand you having a Public Hearing tonight re fireworks regulations within the City of Camas. I am unable to attend this evening but I would like to provide my opinion.

After reviewing the 4 options, I vote for keeping it the same - option 1 or I would be fine with option 2. I am not in favor of only offering Safe & Sane Fireworks or a total Ban. Many families hold gatherings for 7/4 and 1/1 and the fireworks have been a huge part of these events. It is too bad that a small percentage of the people doing fireworks are disrespectful or careless and they punish the rest of us who are respectful of our neighbors and surroundings and are careful with the fireworks. Please don't punish the majority.

Thanks,

Mary Sauer
Co-owner
Sauer Holdings LLC
754 SE Union Street
Camas, WA 98607

Bernie Bacon

From: Pauline <pauline@yourpartycenter.com>
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 2:14 PM
To: City Council Members (GRP)
Subject: Fireworks

Dear City Council,

Please consider leaving the existing firework rules in place.

Kind Regards,

Pauline Mulcahy
Director of Sales/Events

Your Party Center
3006 Ne 112th Ave Suite E
Vancouver, WA 98682
Office: 360-844-7044
Cell: 360-608-6663
www.yourpartycenter.com

Bernie Bacon

From: Alex Owens <alex-owens@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 2:42 PM
To: City Council Members (GRP)
Subject: Fireworks law changes

I am unable to attend tonight's meeting on the above mentioned subject. I did however want my opinion noted. I am against any changes to the current fireworks laws.

Thank you,
Alex Owens
1552 NW 37th Ave
Camas, WA 98607

Sent from my iPhone