

TO: James L. App, City Manager
FROM: Doug Monn, Director of Public Works
SUBJECT: 2011 July 4th Fireworks Event at Barney Schwartz Park
DATE: May 17, 2011

NEEDS: For City Council to consider contract authorizations for a 2011 Fourth of July display at Barney Schwartz Park.

FACTS:

1. On May 3, 2011, City Council determined the last day of consideration of a 2011 July 4th celebration would be extended to May 17, 2011.
2. Subject to all necessary funding being in place by the May 17th date, Council would need to identify the volunteer agencies and individual(s) guaranteeing pledged funding amounts and determine an individual or individuals authorized to negotiate and sign contracts for fireworks, security and associated ancillary support needs.
3. There is the matter of underwriting the liability for the event. In addition to the coverage necessary for the event itself, the adjacent property owners require \$10 million in liability insurance and an additional insured endorsement for the use of their lot. It is uncertain a volunteer group can provide this coverage. If the City underwrites the event through its liability insurance while critical tasks are being handled by volunteers, it could result in an increased risk/exposure to the City's policy.

ANALYSIS &

CONCLUSION: Historically the July 4th event cost is approximately \$78,000. The City cannot fund the event as its General Fund is projected to experience operating shortfalls each fiscal year through FY 2013. Event cost for a 2011 event may be greater than the historical amount given that less City staff (staff has been reduced 36%) will be available to assist in such an event and as a result there could be a greater need for contract assistance for security and other event support.

In 2009 the total number of people needed to handle July 4 was approximately 50 (spread over a number of shifts).

Public Works - 20
Police Department - 24
Library Recreation Services - 4
Emergency Services – 1 Engine

Because of the reductions in staff for 2011 all staff related work would be subject to overtime, thus increasing costs. Even with overtime the work would need to be supplemented by volunteers. A breakdown would be as follows:

Public Works – Effective June 2011, available Public Works staff will number ten (10). A minimum of four (4) individuals would be required to set up working from 6:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. The remaining six (6) staff members would need to be coupled with a minimum of seven (7) volunteers from 1:00 pm to midnight (13 hours) who were willing to clean up all variety of excrement, unplug toilets and pickup trash.

Police Department – The Department presently has 25 officers available. Sixteen (16) officers will be required for traffic control. Volunteers would not be appropriate. Hired event staff could be used for primary security in the Park to substitute for police (at a cost) with only 2-4 PD Officers directing their efforts. This is all overtime work in addition to normal staffing to cover the City. Every sworn officer would need to be committed to this, and there is no wiggle room at all.

Library Recreation Services – LRS would coordinate/supervise the volunteer effort associated with supervision/security of the restricted fire works area and fire prevention (keeping the fabric wet) associated with the baseball shade structures.

Emergency Services – At least one engine and crew would need to be present on site during the show thereby requiring a backup unit to be staffed in order to provide City wide coverage

Logistics – The timing required to coordinate services is critical. Based on a go/no go date of May 17th staff and volunteers would have thirty-two (32) working days to complete all logistics. Attached is a historical accounting of the schedule(s)

- Cal Trans Traffic Plan and Permit
- Statewide Safety (traffic control on Highway 46)
- Septic tank pumping
- Chandler Ranch Parking
- Flyover
- Weed abatement on adjoining property
- Area resident/business notification
- Community Volunteer Patrol to manage parking lots
- Ordering of Porta Potties
- Solid Waste disposal.
- Secure Gators, light towers and other equipment
- Five days for park set up prior to the actual event
- Contract with Pyrospectaculars

FISCAL

IMPACT: The General Fund cannot support any costs. Any non-funded pledges would borne by the City's General Fund.

POLICY

REFERENCE: None.

OPTIONS:

- A. Council determination if the event is a 'go' or 'no go' given the amount of pledges provided and naming of individual(s) guaranteeing pledged funding and/or authorized to negotiate and sign contracts for fireworks, security and associated ancillary support staff.
- B. Amend, modify or reject the options above.