

CLEARANCES	Initial	Date	Date Received in Council Office	Agenda Date	Assigned to:
Originator:	Brenner	6/5/2015		6/9/2015	Introduction
Division Head:				6/23/15	Hearing
Dept. Head:	<i>[Signature]</i>	6.8.15			
Prosecutor:	<i>[Signature]</i>	6/11/15			
Purchasing/Budget:					
Executive:					

TITLE OF DOCUMENT:

Ord. revising WCC 5.20 regarding use of fireworks

ATTACHMENTS:

Ordinance and exhibit

SEPA review required? () Yes () NO	Should Clerk schedule a hearing? (X) Yes () NO
SEPA review completed? () Yes () NO	Requested Date: 6/23/2015

SUMMARY STATEMENT OR LEGAL NOTICE LANGUAGE: (If this item is an ordinance or requires a public hearing, you must provide the language for use in the required public notice. Be specific and cite RCW or WCC as appropriate. Be clear in explaining the intent of the action.)

This ordinance amends WCC 5.20 to add a new section 5.20.095 to limit the use of fireworks to 6PM on July 3 to noon on July 5, and from 6 pm on December 31 to noon on January 2.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

COUNCIL ACTION:

6/9/2015: Introduced 7-0

Related County Contract #:

Related File Numbers:

Ordinance or Resolution Number:

Please Note: Once adopted and signed, ordinances and resolutions are available for viewing and printing on the County's website at: www.co.whatcom.wa.us/council.

PROPOSED: Brenner and Mann
SPONSORED BY: Consent
INTRODUCTION: June 9, 2015

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AMENDING WHATCOM COUNTY CODE CHAPTER 5.20, FIREWORKS

WHEREAS, Chapter 5.20 of the Whatcom County Code regarding the permitting of fireworks has not been updated in many years; and

WHEREAS, while Washington State Fireworks Law (RCW 70.77) permits the discharge of consumer fireworks during designated times from June 28th through July 5th, it also allows cities and counties the authority to adopt regulations on the use of fireworks that are more restrictive than state law; and

WHEREAS, according to the State Fire Marshal's Office, some 169 cities and counties have restrictions or bans in place related to fireworks; and

WHEREAS, the Whatcom County Council desires to recognize the traditional use of fireworks to celebrate the United States of America's Independence Day and our New Years' Day; and

WHEREAS, the Council also recognized the need to respect public concerns regarding the impact of fireworks on counties, including the potential for fires and on the welfare of military veterans, children, animals, and those who have to work the day before and the day after holidays; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Whatcom County Council that Chapter 5.20 of the Whatcom County Code is hereby amended to add a section titled Period of Use, as outlined in Exhibit A to this Ordinance.

BE IT FINALLY ORDAINED that the effective date of this ordinance shall be July 1, 2016.

ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2015.

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Dana Brown-Davis, Clerk of the Council

Carl Weimer, Council Chair

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



WHATCOM COUNTY EXECUTIVE
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Jack Louws, County Executive

Civil Deputy Prosecutor

() Approved () Denied

Date Signed: _____

EXHIBIT A
(WCC 5.20, FIREWORKS)

FIREWORKS

5.20.095 Period of Use.

Consumer fireworks may be used or discharged as follows:

- a. Between the hours of 6 p.m. and 11 p.m. on July 3;
- b. Between the hours of 6 p.m. and midnight on July 4;
- c. Between the hours of 6 p.m. and 11 p.m. on July 5;
- d. Between the hours of 6 p.m. on December 31 and 1 a.m. on January 1 of the subsequent year, and as provided in RCW 70.77.311.