

Hello,

I am reaching out to make a proposal in connection with London's climate emergency declaration. I had shared this proposal with my city councilor, Arielle Kayabaga, and she recommended that I should also share it with this committee. As you will see by reviewing the article I have linked below, the act of setting off fireworks has been long proven to be quite harmful to the environment overall.

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0160412019304921>

<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1186/s12989-020-00360-4>

<https://cdnsiencepub.com/doi/abs/10.1139/er-2017-0063>

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S1352231007009685>

I want to be clear that I have been an avid fireworks fan my entire life, and thus I am not making this proposal light heartedly or out of any disregard for the enjoyment and community connection they can provide. Though I am saying that ultimately people's personal enjoyment of the experience is much less important than the damages these events are having on our waterways and air quality. The toxins that rain down after each explosion often damage ecosystems and the loud bangs and pops sometimes even scare mothering birds into abandoning their young, (among many other issues you will see listed in the sources I have shared).

There are a number of much more sustainable alternatives that the city can consider in future situations where public events can once again be hosted, such as drones or laser shows, among many other options. Thus I would like to propose that a bylaw be introduced to ban all forms of fireworks within the London and Middlesex area. This would set a new precedent that would clearly demonstrate the London council genuinely believes in the climate emergency declaration that's been made, (especially with Canada fast approaching). I believe that if London sets this precedent there is good reason for other cities to follow suit, ultimately having a province, or even possibly country-wide impact.

Please let me know your thoughts and any way I can further support this proposal moving forward.

I hope to hear from you soon,

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