

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@oxnardpd.org>
Sent: Monday, April 6, 2026 6:16 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Follow up questions

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Hi [REDACTED],
Apologies for the delayed reply on this, last week was especially busy. Some answers to your questions:

- *What initiated this community meeting?*
 - Several years ago (~9-10 years ago perhaps) I called a similar meeting. In both cases we met at the PD. I wanted to hear ideas that reflected what community members would like to see done about the fireworks issue. I selected a cross section of about a dozen residents that I knew to be thoughtful, reasonable, and constructive in their approach towards this. All of the participants live in Oxnard. If I recall correctly, I had one or two members from City Council there, and two participants with fire fighting experience (Oxnard FD and California State Fire Marshal's Office), and one with prior law enforcement experience. We also included a neighborhood watch coordinator. Importantly, the meeting preceded the typical "fireworks season" so we could take suggestions and consider how they could potentially fit into our annual fireworks suppression strategy.
 - On a side note, we have called in-house meetings (among city staff from other departments) in past years as well, mainly to strategize. Our partners in the Fire Department have been great partners under the current Fire Chief, and Code Compliance is also involved. It was at one of these meetings in ~2024 when the idea of fixed wing aircraft enforcement was introduced.
- *What actions(s) did you implement regarding the outcome of this meeting?*
 - One thing that I clearly remember as a very good suggestion was to send short term rental (STR) hosts an advanced warning letter about how serious the City is about fireworks enforcement. Our [REDACTED], developed a form letter to send STR hosts. If I recall correctly, the letter talked about the potential loss of STR permits if their tenants engaged in illegal fireworks activity at their property.
- *From your perspective, do you feel the meeting was positive? Why?*
 - Yes, definitely positive because 1) the constructive and thoughtful nature of the group, which also spoke from positions of knowledge as well as community

expectations; 2) the previous suggestion, which became incorporated into our practices, and 3) We were also able to show members of our public what we do in Oxnard to address illegal fireworks, including members of our City Council (who hear a lot of complaints from a relatively short list of locals about it). 4) It also gives voice to our community members.

- Hopefully that education component gave us a number of more informed residents who could speak on the issue if it came up in conversation.
- *What feedback have you gotten from the public regarding steps you have taken because of the community fireworks meeting in 2025?*
 - The comments that we get generally have not been specific to our actions based on the 2025 community meeting. They are generally broader about the fireworks problem, and are typically either criticisms, editorials, or ideas that range from something to consider, to unrealistic, to outright problematic. There are usual themes, some of which appear year to year (such as alleging illegal fireworks sales at local big box stores, which has yet to ever be established). *(If you find yourself interested, I can share a few of these emails with you to provide you an idea of the questions, commentary, and the amount of both time and back and forth that takes place. They would qualify as publicly disclosable records. Just let me know).*
 - I have spoken to dozens of police chiefs from across the state about this. Fireworks enforcement is a thankless topic for us. No matter what we do, or how many citations we issue, it is typically never enough from members of the public who take the time to speak publicly. Rarely does anyone ever address the City Council or speak at a neighborhood event about how pleased they are with what law enforcement is doing about fireworks.
 - There is a small group of residents, some of which are among a circle of prolific email authors, public record requestors, gadflies, or regular attendees of public meetings (especially City Council, Neighborhood Councils) that continue to complain. In my opinion, they always will look for something to complain about.

And FYI, our City Attorney's Office has an item on the tomorrow evening's (4/7) City Council agenda about increasing fines for fireworks violations (Item N.7, here's the staff report: <https://oxnardca.portal.civicclerk.com/event/5713/files/report/6492>)

I hope this was helpful!



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On Thu, Apr 2, 2026 at 9:52 AM [REDACTED] [@ventura.org](mailto:[REDACTED]@ventura.org)> wrote:

Hi, [REDACTED]

I have a couple of follow up questions based on our earlier interview. I'm sure you realize that we are still communicating under the Confidentiality and Non-Disclosure Agreement.

Questions:

As chief you hosted a community fireworks meeting in mid-2025, with community members and professional first responders.

- What initiated this community meeting?
- What actions(s) did you implement regarding the outcome of this meeting?
- From your perspective, do you feel the meeting was positive? Why?
- What feedback have you gotten from the public regarding steps you have taken because of the community fireworks meeting in 2025?

Thanks for your time and attention to this.

[REDACTED]
Ventura County Civil Grand Juror