



---

# MEMORANDUM

---

Date: April 30, 2025

To: Melissa Manriquez  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

From: Jan Leshner   
County Administrator

Re: **Agenda Item Request for the May 20, 2025 Board of Supervisors Meeting**

Please place the following item on the agenda for the May 20, 2025 Board of Supervisors meeting - Discussion/Direction/Action:

Hearing - Code Text Amendment

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-\_\_\_\_, an Ordinance of the Board of Supervisors of Pima County, Arizona, relating to Fireworks, amending the Pima County Code, Title 9.

JKL/anc

c: Carmine DeBonis, Jr., Deputy County Administrator  
Steve Holmes, Deputy County Administrator

ORDINANCE 2025 – \_\_\_\_\_

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF PIMA COUNTY, ARIZONA, RELATING TO THE PUBLIC DISPLAY OF FIREWORKS; AMENDING THE PIMA COUNTY CODE, CHAPTER 9.04**

**THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF PIMA COUNTY, ARIZONA FINDS THAT:**

1. The Board of Supervisors of Pima County, Arizona has authority under A.R.S. Section 36-1603 to adopt reasonable rules and regulations for granting permits for public displays of fireworks within its jurisdiction.
2. It is in the public interest to require that neighborhoods of a proposed site for a public fireworks display are given advance notice of an application for a permit and that appropriate safety and remediation measures are taken with respect to such displays.

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF PIMA COUNTY, ARIZONA:**

**SECTION 1.** Pima County Code Section 9.04.050 is amended by adding a prior notification requirement, as follows:

A. Application for a permit shall be made in writing not less than forty-five days prior to the date of the display. Each applicant must notify any neighbors within 1000 feet of the site by first class mail or email, return receipt requested, prior to submitting an application. Every display shall be handled by a pyrotechnic operator, and shall be of a character and located, discharged and fired so that it will not be hazardous to property or endanger any person. Before a permit is granted, the operator, location and handling of the display shall be approved by the board of supervisors after investigation and approval by the sheriff. After a permit is granted, the sale, possession, use and distribution of fireworks for the display shall be lawful for that purpose only. No permit is transferable or assignable and will be void if transferred or assigned.

**SECTION 2.** Pima County Code Section 9.04.050 is amended by deleting the authority of the justice of the peace to permit fireworks, as follows:

~~B. If a community, organization or group authorized under this section to obtain a permit for public display of fireworks desires a permit for a locality more than fifty miles from the county seat and not within the limits of an incorporated city or town, application may be made to the justice of the peace of the precinct in which that locality is situated. The justice may issue the permit, subject to the conditions prescribed by this section, in the same manner as the board of supervisors. The constable shall make the prescribed investigation. The justice of the peace shall promptly report to the board of supervisors any permit issued by him pursuant to this subsection and shall transmit the bond of the applicant to the board.~~

**SECTION 3.** Pima County Code Section 9.04.050 is amended by adding a new Section B, which defines the time of day during which fireworks may be set off, as follows:

B. Public displays of fireworks may only be set off:

1. Between sunset December 31 to 1 a.m. January 1 and
2. Between sunset and 11 p.m. on all other days in which public displays of fireworks are allowed.

**SECTION 4.** Pima County Code Section 9.04.080 is amended by adding enhanced requirements regarding weather conditions, as follows:

E. No fireworks display shall be held during any storm or wind in which the if the wind reaches a velocity of more than ten miles per hour at the scheduled display time or at any time during the display, verified by the appropriate fire department/district.

**SECTION 5.** Pima County Code Section 9.04.080 is amended by adding enhanced requirements regarding weather conditions, as follows:

F. No public fireworks displays shall be held if the U.S. Drought Monitor weekly report identifies the drought conditions for Pima County at D2 (severe drought), D3 (extreme drought) or D4 (exceptional drought)

G. F. All fireworks, articles and items at places of display shall be stored in a manner and in a place secure from fire, accidental discharge, and theft or other potential hazards, and in a manner approved by the governmental agency having jurisdiction.

**SECTION 6.** Pima County Code Section 9.04.080 is amended by adding safety and remediation requirements, as follows:

H. The applicant must:

1. Notify the appropriate fire department/district and schedule on-site standby during the display.
2. Clear a firing area and a drop area for spent fireworks as designated by the local fire district.
3. Ensure the site is watered down within 24 hours before the scheduled display time.
4. Cancel any display scheduled if the wind speed is higher than 10 miles per hour at the scheduled display time or at any time during the display, verified by the appropriate fire department/district.
5. Remedy any fire or property damage, including engaging a registered landscape architect to create a restoration plan including engaging a registered landscape architect to create a restoration plan including native ground cover and tree and shrub replacement based on their analysis of what existed previously, and implementing and monitoring the plan, including planting and irrigation as appropriate.

**SECTION 7.** The Ordinance is effective 30 days after the date of adoption.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Supervisors Pima County, Arizona, this 20<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2025.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman, Board of Supervisors      Date

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of the Board

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**



\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy County Attorney

ORDINANCE 2025 – \_\_\_\_\_

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF PIMA COUNTY, ARIZONA, RELATING TO THE PUBLIC DISPLAY OF FIREWORKS; AMENDING THE PIMA COUNTY CODE, CHAPTER 9.04**

**THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF PIMA COUNTY, ARIZONA FINDS THAT:**

1. The Board of Supervisors of Pima County, Arizona has authority under A.R.S. Section 36-1603 to adopt reasonable rules and regulations for granting permits for public displays of fireworks within its jurisdiction.
2. It is in the public interest to require that neighborhoods of a proposed site for a public fireworks display are given advance notice of an application for a permit and that appropriate safety and remediation measures are taken with respect to such displays.

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF PIMA COUNTY, ARIZONA:**

**SECTION 1.** Pima County Code Section 9.04.050 is amended by adding a prior notification requirement, as follows:

A. Application for a permit shall be made in writing not less than forty-five days prior to the date of the display. Each applicant must notify any neighbors within 1000 feet of the site by first class mail or email, return receipt requested, prior to submitting an application. Every display shall be handled by a pyrotechnic operator, and shall be of a character and located, discharged and fired so that it will not be hazardous to property or endanger any person. Before a permit is granted, the operator, location and handling of the display shall be approved by the board of supervisors after investigation and approval by the sheriff. After a permit is granted, the sale, possession, use and distribution of fireworks for the display shall be lawful for that purpose only. No permit is transferable or assignable and will be void if transferred or assigned.

**SECTION 2.** Pima County Code Section 9.04.050 is amended by deleting the authority of the justice of the peace to permit fireworks.

**SECTION 3.** Pima County Code Section 9.04.050 is amended by adding a new Section B, which defines the time of day during which fireworks may be set off, as follows:

B. Public displays of fireworks may only be set off:

1. Between sunset December 31 to 1 a.m. January 1 and
2. Between sunset and 11 p.m. on all other days in which public displays of fireworks are allowed.

**SECTION 4.** Pima County Code Section 9.04.080 is amended by adding enhanced requirements regarding weather conditions, as follows:

E. No fireworks display shall be held if the wind reaches a velocity of more than ten miles per hour at the scheduled display time or at any time during the display, verified by the appropriate fire department/district.

**SECTION 5.** Pima County Code Section 9.04.080 is amended by adding enhanced requirements regarding weather conditions, as follows:

F. No public fireworks displays shall be held if the U.S. Drought Monitor weekly report identifies the drought conditions for Pima County at D2 (severe drought), D3 (extreme drought) or D4 (exceptional drought)

G. All fireworks, articles and items at places of display shall be stored in a manner and in a place secure from fire, accidental discharge, and theft or other potential hazards, and in a manner approved by the governmental agency having jurisdiction.

**SECTION 6.** Pima County Code Section 9.04.080 is amended by adding safety and remediation requirements, as follows:

H. The applicant must:

1. Notify the appropriate fire department/district and schedule on-site standby during the display.
2. Clear a firing area and a drop area for spent fireworks as designated by the local fire district.
3. Ensure the site is watered down within 24 hours before the scheduled display time.
4. Cancel any display scheduled if the wind speed is higher than 10 miles per hour at the scheduled display time or at any time during the display, verified by the appropriate fire department/district.

5. Remedy any fire or property damage, including engaging a registered landscape architect to create a restoration plan including engaging a registered landscape architect to create a restoration plan including native ground cover and tree and shrub replacement based on their analysis of what existed previously, and implementing and monitoring the plan, including planting and irrigation as appropriate.

**SECTION 7.** The Ordinance is effective 30 days after the date of adoption.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Supervisors Pima County, Arizona, this 20<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2025.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman, Board of Supervisors                      Date

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of the Board

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**



\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy County Attorney