Roman Baligad, Emergency Preparedness & Homeland Security Director





Purpose

Prohibiting the use, possession, and discharge of consumer fireworks within the Historic Districts to protect the area's historic structures, public safety, and quality of life.



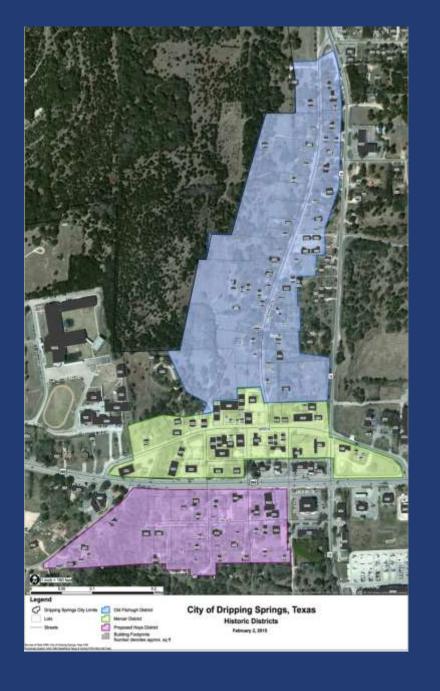


Concerns

- Fire Risk: Increased danger of fire due to aging wooden structures and dense building placement.
- Public Safety: Fireworks can cause injury to bystanders and residents, especially in crowded or confined areas.
- Noise & Nuisance: Fireworks disturb local wildlife, residents, and visitors, particularly those with sensory sensitivities or pets.
- Property Damage: Reports of scorch marks, debris, and broken windows from unauthorized firework use.
- Potential for Public Panic: Loud and sudden fireworks during festivals and events can be mistaken for gunfire or explosions, leading to confusion, fear, and possible crowd surges or injuries in a densely populated area.

Events

- Founders Day
- Christmas on Mercer
- Songwriters Festival
- Hometown Holidays
- Brewfest
- Christmas Tree Lighting



Ordinance

Fireworks: Includes any firecracker, cannon cracker, skyrocket, torpedo, Roman candle, sparkler, squib, fire balloon, star shell, gerb, or any article or substance used to produce a visible or audible pyrotechnic display, including novelty or trick noisemakers, unless explicitly exempted.

- Prohibits use of fireworks whether purposeful or unintentional
- Does not apply to Public Fireworks Display
- Does not apply to Pyrotechnics used by law enforcement
- Creates an offense



Staff Recommendation

- Emergency Management Committee recommends approval of Ordinance.
- Staff recommends approval of the Ordinance.





QUESTIONS?