

ITEM #:	11
DATE:	06-09-26
DEPT:	ADMIN

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: FIREWORKS PERMIT FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY FIREWORKS

BACKGROUND:

Discover Ames is organizing the annual Independence Day Fireworks Display, which will take place on July 3, 2026. The fireworks will be launched from ISU Parking Lot G10, east of Jack Trice Stadium. The display is anticipated to begin at 10:00 p.m. and will be between 15 and 20 minutes in length. A rain date has been requested for July 5.

The display operator is J&M Displays, which has substantial experience launching the Ames Independence Day fireworks display. The display operator and Discover Ames have filed a Fireworks Permit application (attached), which has received approval signatures from representatives of ISU Environmental Health and Safety, ISU Police, ISU Risk Management, and the Ames Fire Inspector. A certificate of liability insurance is on file with the City Clerk's Office.

Community members can view the display from adjacent stadium parking lots.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve a Fireworks Permit for the Independence Day Fireworks Display on July 3, with a rain date of July 5.
2. Do not approve a Fireworks Permit.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The Independence Day Fireworks Display is a popular community event. City staff has consulted with Discover Ames and ISU officials regarding the planning for the display, and all appropriate application materials and approvals have been obtained. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1 as described above.

ATTACHMENT(S):

[Signed ISU Agreement and Supporting Documents - 4th of July Fireworks](#)