



STAFF REPORT

Date: May 28, 2026
To: FRRPD Board of Directors
From: Brian Wilson, General Manager
SUBJECT: Consideration of Request from the Oroville Economic Alliance for use of Riverbend Park for a Community Fourth of July Celebration to include Professional Fireworks

SUMMARY:

The Board of Directors will consider a request submitted by the Oroville Economic Alliance (OEA) for use of Riverbend Park in connection with a proposed community Fourth of July celebration to include a professionally managed fireworks display proposed to be launched from the north soccer field area of Riverbend Park.

The proposed event is intended to serve as a large-scale community Fourth of July celebration associated with Independence Day and the America 250 observance and would potentially include public gathering and viewing areas throughout Riverbend Park and surrounding open space areas.

BACKGROUND:

FRRPD staff has been coordinating preliminary discussions with representatives of the Oroville Economic Alliance, Oroville Area Chamber of Commerce, Pyro Spectaculars, CAPRI, local public safety agencies, and other stakeholders regarding the proposed event and potential use of Riverbend Park.

Initial discussions identified Riverbend Park as a preferred potential location due to the ability to accommodate a professionally managed fireworks display with improved viewing opportunities and greater separation distances when compared to previously discussed downtown launch locations.

Preliminary discussions and coordination efforts have included:

- Fireworks launch location considerations
- Public safety coordination
- Traffic circulation and congestion management
- Emergency vehicle access
- Parking and overflow parking considerations
- Portable restroom planning
- Crowd management and security considerations
- Fire prevention and fire response planning
- Emergency medical response coordination
- Impacts to nearby roadways and Highway 70
- Potential trail and park area closures
- Insurance requirements and liability considerations
- Coordination with CAPRI and pyrotechnics insurance carriers

The City of Oroville has reportedly committed funding support toward the fireworks display, and discussions have included participation and coordination with additional agencies and organizations.

Staff understands that the Oroville Economic Alliance would serve as the official event sponsor and contracting entity associated with the proposed event.

BOARD DISCUSSION AND IDENTIFIED CONCERNS:

During the May 26, 2026 Board of Directors meeting, Board members discussed the proposed event and identified several operational, public safety, and logistical concerns requiring additional clarification and coordination.

The Board emphasized that any consideration of the proposed event must prioritize:

1. Public safety
2. Positive community enjoyment and event experience
3. Protection of District facilities, infrastructure, and park resources

While coordination efforts remain ongoing, some questions and operational items identified by the Board have yet to be fully answered or confirmed by the applicant and/or participating agencies and would require additional clarification prior to final Board consideration of the request.

Items identified during recent Board discussion include, but may not be limited to, the following:

- Identification/confirmation from the agency responsible for pre-event fire inspection review and overall fire risk management sign-off
- Identification/confirmation from the agency responsible for preparation, submission, approval coordination, and implementation of the traffic control plan
- Identification/confirmation from the agency responsible for emergency response coordination within the Feather River corridor
- Confirmation of California Highway Patrol participation and support associated with Highway 70 traffic impacts and Montgomery Street access points
- Confirmation regarding agency staffing commitments and operational support levels
- Finalization of insurance documentation and liability requirements
- Clarification regarding event cleanup, trash removal, and post-event restoration responsibilities
- Operational coordination associated with parking, overflow parking, road closures, pedestrian access, and public viewing areas

Should the request ultimately be approved, FRRPD staff anticipates direct involvement in refinement and coordination of operational planning elements associated with the event, including:

- Public viewing areas
- Parking and overflow parking plans
- Proposed closure areas
- Portable restroom placement plans
- Trash and debris collection and removal plans

PARK RULES AND REGULATIONS:

Should the event be approved, all FRRPD park ordinances and regulations would remain in effect during the event, including prohibitions related to:

- Personal fireworks
- Alcohol
- Glass containers
- Smoking and vaping within park facilities

FISCAL IMPACT:

Potential fiscal impacts associated with District staffing, traffic control coordination, cleanup, restoration, facility impacts, and operational support are currently unknown and subject to additional review and agreement between participating agencies and event organizers.

RECOMMENDATION:

Provide direction regarding the request submitted by the Oroville Economic Alliance for use of Riverbend Park for the proposed community Fourth of July celebration and professional fireworks display.