

1 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA,  
2 AMENDING CHAPTER 1.18 OF THE RIVERSIDE MUNICIPAL CODE  
3 REGARDING ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE  
4 CITY’S FIREWORKS LAWS.

5 The City Council of the City of Riverside does ordain as follows:

6 Section 1: Section 1.18.010 of the Riverside Municipal Code is hereby amended as follows:

7 **“Section 1.18.010 Definitions.**

8 The following words and phrases shall, for the purposes of this chapter, have the meanings  
9 respectively ascribed to them by this section, as follows:

10 A. *Dangerous fireworks* has the same meaning ascribed to it under the State Fireworks Law.

11 ...

12 H. *Social Host* means a person or persons with a right of possession of the residence or other  
13 private property at which illegal fireworks are sold, offered to be sold, possessed, stored, used,  
14 ignited or discharged including but not limited to: (a) any owner of the residence or other private  
15 property – meaning the record owner of the title to property as of the time of the possession, storage,  
16 sale, use, ignition or discharge, wherever that person or entity resides at that time; (b) a tenant or  
17 lessee of the residence of other private property at the time when the illegal fireworks are possessed,  
18 stored, sold, used, ignited, or discharged; (c) the person(s) in charge of the residence or other private  
19 property at the time when illegal fireworks are possessed, stored, sold, used, ignited or discharged;  
20 (d) the person(s) who organizes supervises, officiates, conducts or controls the gathering or any other  
21 persons(s) accepting responsibility for such gatherings where illegal fireworks are possessed.”

22 Section 2: Section 1.18.020 of the Riverside Municipal Code is hereby amended as follows:

23 **“Section 1.18.020 Prohibition, seizure and disposal.**

24 A. Pursuant to Section 16.32.375 of the Riverside Municipal Code, the selling, offer for sale,  
25 use, discharge, possession, storage, or transportation of fireworks is prohibited.

26 ...

27 D. The Fire Chief and his or her authorized representatives, the Police Chief and his or her  
28 authorized representatives, and the Code Enforcement Division shall have the authority to use sUAS

1 (small unmanned aircraft system) technology for fireworks enforcement.”

2  
3 Section 3: Section 1.18.040 of the Riverside Municipal Code is hereby amended as  
4 follows:

5 **“Section 1.18.040 Penalties.**

6 A. In addition to any remedy available at law, any person in violation of any provision of this  
7 chapter or Section 16.32.375 of this Code involving 25 pounds or less of fireworks is subject to the  
8 issuance of an administrative citation of \$1,500.00 and a disposal fee as set by the State.

9 ...

10 J. It is unlawful for any Social Host to allow, by invitation or consent, which consent may be  
11 implied given surrounding facts and circumstances such as repeated violations, any violation of this  
12 chapter to occur without first obtaining all required permits and licenses. Such violation subjects  
13 any and all Social Host(s) to strict liability for penalties imposed for violation(s) of this section.

14 K. A Social Host need not be present at the time illegal fireworks are possessed, stored, sold,  
15 used, ignited or discharged for the City to impose penalties. Prior knowledge of the possession,  
16 storage, sale, use, ignition or discharge is not a pre-requisite to a finding that any specific individual  
17 is a Social Host as defined by this section.”

18  
19 Section 4. The City Council has reviewed the matter and, based upon the facts and  
20 information contained in the staff reports, administrative record, and written and oral testimony,  
21 hereby finds that this ordinance is not subject to CEQA pursuant to Sections 15060(c)(2),  
22 15060(c)(3) and/or 15061(b)(3) of the State CEQA Guidelines, California Code of Regulations,  
23 Title 14, Chapter 3, in that it will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical  
24 change.

1           Section 5. The City Clerk shall certify to the adoption of this ordinance and cause  
2 publication once in a newspaper of general circulation in accordance with Section 414 of the  
3 Charter of the City of Riverside. This ordinance shall become effective on the 30th day after the  
4 date of its adoption.

5                       ADOPTED by the City Council this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

6  
7  
8   \_\_\_\_\_  
9   PATRICIA LOCK DAWSON  
10   Mayor of the City of Riverside

11           Attest:

12           \_\_\_\_\_  
13           DONESIA GAUSE  
14           City Clerk of the City of Riverside

15                       I, Donesia Gause, City Clerk of the City of Riverside, California, hereby certify that the  
16 foregoing ordinance was duly and regularly introduced at a meeting of the City Council on the  
17 \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025, and that thereafter the said ordinance was duly and  
18 regularly adopted at a meeting of the City Council on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025,  
19 by the following vote, to wit:

- 20                       Ayes:
- 21                       Noes:
- 22                       Absent:
- 23                       Abstain:

24                       IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of the  
25 City of Riverside, California, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

26  
27   \_\_\_\_\_  
28   DONESIA GAUSE  
  City Clerk of the City of Riverside